الإيمانُ مُيَسَّراً - الجزء الثالث

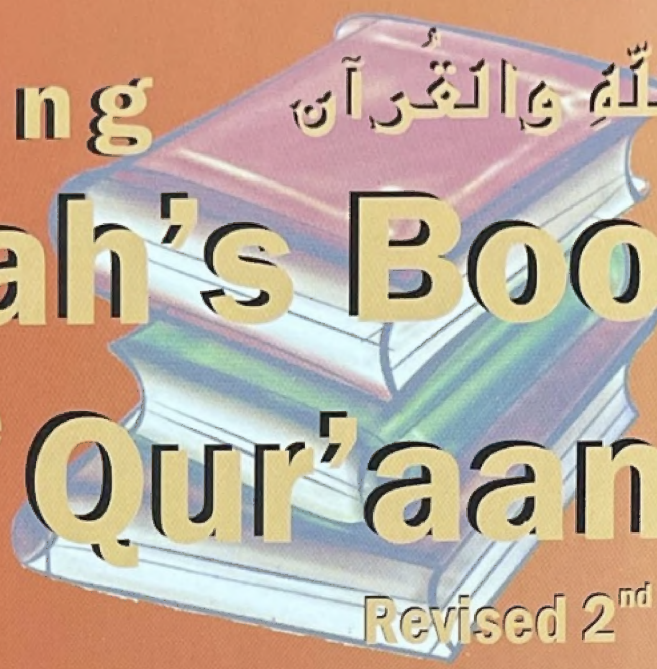
Eemaan MADE EASY

PART 3 THREE

معرفة

كُتُبِ اللهِ والقُرآن

# Knowing Allaah's Books & the Qur'aan



Revised 2nd Edition


محمد بن مصطفى الجبالي

Muhammad Mustafā al-Jibāly



مَنشُورات الكتاب والسُّنَّة

Al-Kitaab & as-Sunnah Publishing

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بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

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مُحَمَّد بن مُصْطَفىٰ ٱلجِبَالِي

**MUHAMMAD MUSTAFĀ AL-JIBĀLY**



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# PREFACE

## Opening Sermon

إِنَّ ٱلْحَمْدَ للهِ، نَحْمَدُهُ ونَسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ، وَنَعُوذُ بِاللهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَمِنْ سَيِّئَاتِ أَعْمَالِنَا. مَنْ يَهْدِهِ ٱللهُ فَلاَ مُضِلَّ لَهُ، وَمَنْ يُضْلِلْ فَلاَ هَادِيَ لَهُ.

*Al-hamdu lillaah.* Indeed, all praise is due to Allaah. We praise Him and seek His help and forgiveness. We seek refuge with Allaah from our souls' evils and our wrong doings. He whom Allaah guides, no one can misguide; and he whom He misguides, no one can guide.

وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لاَ إِلَـٰهَ إِلاَّ ٱللهُ، وَحْدَهُ لاَ شَرِيكَ لَهُ. وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّداً عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ.

I bear witness that there is no (true) god except Allaah — alone without any partners. And I bear witness that Muhammad (ﷺ) is His *'abd* (servant) and messenger. [1]

﴿يَـٰٓأَيُّهَا ٱلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُواْ ٱتَّقُواْ ٱللهَ حَقَّ تُقَاتِهِۦ، وَلاَ تَمُوتُنَّ إِلاَّ وَأَنتُم مُّسْلِمُونَ۝﴾ آل عمران ١٠٢

**«O you who believe! Revere Allaah the right**

---

1 The above two paragraphs, together with the following three portions of Qur'aan, are called *Khutbat ul-Haajah* (the Sermon of Need). Allaah's Messenger (ﷺ) often started his speeches with this sermon, and he was keen to teach it to his companions. The *hadeeth*s in this regard are recorded by Muslim, Aboo Daawood, an-Nasaa'ee, and others, and are narrated by Ibn Mas'ood, Ibn 'Abbaas, and others (رضي الله عنهم). A full discussion of the various reports of this sermon is provided by al-Albaanee in his booklet, "*Khutbat ul-Haajah*", published by al-Maktab ul-Islaamee, Beirut.

**reverence, and do not die except as Muslims.»** [1]

﴿يَـٰٓأَيُّهَا ٱلنَّاسُ ٱتَّقُواْ رَبَّكُمُ ٱلَّذِي خَلَقَكُم مِّن نَّفْسٍ وَٰحِدَةٍ، وَخَلَقَ مِنْهَا زَوْجَهَا، وَبَثَّ مِنْهُمَا رِجَالاً كَثِيرًا وَنِسَآءً، وَٱتَّقُواْ ٱللَّهَ ٱلَّذِي تَسَآءَلُونَ بِهِ وَٱلأَرْحَامَ، إِنَّ ٱللَّهَ كَانَ عَلَيْكُمْ رَقِيبًا۝﴾ النساء ١

**«O people! Revere your Lord who has created you from a single soul, created from it its mate, and dispersed from both of them many men and women. Revere Allaah through whom you demand things from one another, and (cherish the ties of) the wombs. Indeed, Allaah is ever-watchful over you.»** [2]

﴿يَـٰٓأَيُّهَا ٱلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُواْ ٱتَّقُواْ ٱللَّهَ وَقُولُواْ قَوْلاً سَدِيدًا۝ يُصْلِحْ لَكُمْ أَعْمَـٰلَكُمْ، وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ ذُنُوبَكُمْ، وَمَن يُطِعِ ٱللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ, فَقَدْ فَازَ فَوْزًا عَظِيمًا۝﴾ الأحزاب ٧٠-٧١

**«O you who believe! Revere Allaah and say just words. He will then rectify your deeds and forgive your sins. He who obeys Allaah and His Messenger has certainly achieved a great victory.»** [3]

أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فإِنَّ خَيْرَ ٱلْحَدِيثِ كِتَابُ ٱللهِ، وَخَيْرَ الهَدْيِ هَدْيُ مُحَمَّدٍ (ﷺ)، وَشَرَّ الأُمُورِ مُحْدَثَاتُهَا، وَكُلَّ مُحْدَثَةٍ بِدْعَةٌ، وَكُلَّ بِدْعَةٍ ضَلاَلَةٌ، وَكُلَّ ضَلاَلَةٍ فِي ٱلنَّارِ.

Indeed, the best speech is Allaah's (ﷻ) speech; the best guidance is Muhammad's (ﷺ) guidance; and the worst matters

1 *Aal 'Imraan* 3:102.
2 *An-Nisaa'* 4:1.
3 *Al-Ahzaab* 33:70-71.

(in creed and worship) are those innovated (by the people), for every innovated matter is a *bid'ah* (prohibited innovation), and every *bid'ah* is an act of misguidance that (whoever initiated it) will reside in the Fire. [1]

## A Word to Parents and Educators

### The Goals of True Education

True Education is that which improves a person's knowledge and understanding of his *Deen*. It makes him more aware of the purpose of his creation and his role in this life. It builds in his heart a strong belief that enables him to distinguish between the right and wrong, and a strong *eemaan* that compels him to abide by the right and refrain from the wrong.

True education is a social necessity. It is a prerequisite for attaining success and dignity similar to those that were enjoyed by the first Muslim generations.

### Faults in Current Islaamic Curricula

It is indeed sad to see that education, with the above goals, has largely vanished from among the Muslims. Most of those who took its lead lack in clear Islaamic knowledge and vision. In their heart, there is a great void that they attempt to fill with numerous imported educational theories, causing a severe distortion to the Islaamic identity.

Verily, a quick review of the available Islaamic curricula, as well as the books available for children's reading, exposes an obvious problem. There is an serious confusion in determining the right approach and material to present to the children.

We find that the themes of many Islaamic children's books revolve around magic and superstition, deviant beliefs and practices, historical falsehoods and slanders, offensive thought,

1 Muslim and others have recorded from Jaabir Bin 'Abdillaah (ﷺ) that Allaah's Messenger (ﷺ) used to start his speeches with this paragraph.

or disguised invitations to religious or ideological beliefs that contradict Islaam!

#### MENDING THE RIFT

All of this has prompted us to write for our beloved youth books meant to help in filling the current gaps and mending the current rifts.

In these books, as in the rest of our publications, we base the material that we present on the authentic sources: Allaah's Book, His Messenger's (ﷺ) Sunnah, and the clear understanding of the true scholars of Islaam.

In these books, we use easy language and present the concepts in a simplified manner. We do this without compromising the accuracy or breadth of coverage. This makes these books ideal as textbooks for elementary and intermediate school levels. In addition, their attractive appearance and numerous exercises make them useful sources of both knowledge and entertainment.

This publication is, therefore, a humble response to our realization of a great responsibility: the responsibility of bringing forth, before the English speaking youth, reading and study materials that refine the Islaamic concepts and present Islaam pure and simple, as close as possible to the way that it was understood and practiced by its early good pioneers - the *Salaf*.

## *Eemaan* Made Easy

The "*Eemaan* Made Easy" series covers the six pillars of *Eemaan* mentioned in the *hadeeth* of Jibreel (عليه السلام) and elaborates on some subjects related to them. The material is well-founded on authentic proofs from the Qur'aan and Sunnah. The books are written in easy language, making them accessible to individuals with limited vocabulary.

This series covers the six pillars of *Eemaan* and related subjects as follows:

1. Knowing Allaah
2. Knowing the Angels
3. Knowing Allaah's Books & the Qur'aan
4. Knowing Allaah's Prophets & Messengers
5. Knowing the Last Day
6. Belief in Allaah's Decree — *Qadar*

Each book is structured into chapters, sections, and subsection to organize learning and facilitate grasping the concepts. Furthermore, each chapter includes exercises to emphasize, review, and reinforce the concepts. All of this makes the *Eemaan Made Easy* series a valuable source of reliable study material for schools and individuals.

## Technicalities

### Translating and Transliterating Arabic

In our attempt to minimize the use of Arabic terms, we use transliterated Arabic terms in the following two situations only:

a) When no English expression is found that can reflect the same meaning as the original term.

b) When it is judged that an Arabic term is of such importance that it is essential to familiarize the reader with it.

At the end of this book, we have included a glossary defining common Arabic terms that fulfill the above criteria.

Except for proper nouns, transliterated Arabic terms are *italic*ized. In general, the rules of English pronunciation can be applied. The following table includes additional symbols employed in this book to help pronounce Arabic terms.

| Symbol | Stands for | English Equivalent Sounds |
|---|---|---|
| aa, Aa | (ا) *Alif* (long vowel a) | Mostly: M<u>a</u>n, s<u>a</u>d. At times: F<u>a</u>ther, h<u>a</u>rd, g<u>o</u>d. |
| oo, Oo | (و) *Waaw* (long vowel u) | R<u>oo</u>t, s<u>ou</u>p, fl<u>u</u>te. |
| ee, Ee | (ي) *Yaa'* (long vowel i) | S<u>ee</u>d, l<u>ea</u>n, p<u>ie</u>ce, rec<u>ei</u>ve. |
| | (ء) *Hamzah* | The first consonant vocal sound uttered when saying: <u>a</u>t, <u>i</u>t or <u>o</u>h. |
| Th, th | (ث) *Thaa'* | <u>Th</u>ree, mo<u>th</u>. |
| H, h | (ح) *Haa'* | No equivalent. Produced in the lower throat, below "h". Resembles the sound produced after swallowing. |
| Kh, kh | (خ) *Khaa'* | No equivalent. Produced in the back of the mouth and top of the throat. |
| <u>Th</u>, <u>th</u> | (ذ) *<u>Th</u>aal* | <u>Th</u>ere, mo<u>th</u>er. |
| S, s | (ص) *Saad* | A deeper "s" sound. Somewhat close to the "sc" in "mu<u>sc</u>le". |
| Dh, dh | (ض) *Dhaad* | Sounds deeper than a "d". Produced by touching the tongue to the mouth's roof. |
| T, t | (ط) *Tah* | Similar but deeper than a "t". |
| Z, z | (ظ) *Zah* | A deeper *<u>th</u>aal*, produced by touching the tip of the tongue to the back of the front teeth. |
| | (ع) *'Ayn* | Produced in the bottom of the throat, underneath "h". |

| Symbol | Stands for | English Equivalent Sounds |
|---|---|---|
| Gh, gh | (غ) *Ghayn* | A gurgling sound produced in the back of the mouth, just above the *khaa'*. Similar to the "R" in some french accents. |
| Q, q | (ق) *Qaaf* | Somewhat similar to the "c" in "coffee". |

#### TRANSLATING AND REFERENCING QUR'AAN AND *HADEETH*

The Qur'aan contains Allaah's exact words. These words cannot be exactly translated into other languages because of possible misinterpretations and limited human understanding. When an *aayah* is cited, the Arabic text is quoted followed, between double angle quotation marks, by the English meaning in «**boldface**». The meaning is extracted from books of *tafseer* and accessible translations.

The location of a Qur'aanic citation is specified in a footnote, providing the name of the *soorah*, its number, and the number(s) of the *aayah*(s) cited.

Similarly, the Arabic text of a *hadeeth* is quoted first. Its meaning is then presented in ‹**boldface**›, between single angle quotation marks. If the *hadeeth* relates a supplication, we usually present, as well, a full transliteration to help pronounce the supplication.

A footnote normally specifies the location of a cited *hadeeth* in the books of Sunnah, as well as its degree of authenticity and the names of scholars who made such a judgment.

#### NOTABLE UTTERANCES

Out of love, appreciation, gratitude or other noble feelings, a Muslim is encouraged to say certain phrases at the mention of Allaah, His messengers, the angels, the *sahaabah*, or other righteous Muslims. We present these phrases in condensed Arabic calligraphy as follows:

| Phrase | Said after | Transliteration | Meaning |
|---|---|---|---|
| ﷻ | Allaah's Name | *Subhaanahoo wa ta'aalaa.* | He is exalted above weakness and indignity. |
| ﷻ | Allaah's Name | *'Azza wa-jall.* | May He be exalted and glorified. |
| ﷻ | Allaah's Name | *Jalla jalaaluh.* | May His glory be exalted. |
| ﷺ | Muhammad or other prophets | *Salla 'Llaahu 'alayhi wa sallam.* | Allaah's peace and praise be on him. |
| ﷺ | Prophets and angels | *'Alayh is-Salaam.* | Peace be on him. |
| ﷺ | A male companion | *Radhiya 'Llaahu 'anhu.* | May Allaah be pleased with him. |
| ﷺ | A female companion | *Radhiya 'Llaahu 'anhaa.* | May Allaah be pleased with her. |
| ﷺ | Two companion | *Radhiya 'Llaahu 'anhumaa.* | May Allaah be pleased with them. |
| ﷺ | Several companions | *Radhiya 'Llaahu 'anhum.* | May Allaah be pleased with them. |
| ﷺ | A scholar or righteous Muslim. | *Rahimahu 'Llaah.* | May Allaah have mercy on him. |

When coming across any of these symbols, the reader is advised to say the complete phrase in order to obtain the reward of saying the appropriate *thikr* or *du'aa'*.

## Acknowledgments

All praise and thanks are due to our Lord (ﷻ) who facilitated completing this work. And may Allaah reward all the Muslims who helped and supported this effort in any way. In particular, may Allaah reward 'Abdullah al-Jibaly for designing the cover of the First Edition, and my daughters for proofreading the manuscript.

We ask Allaah (ﷻ) to make this humble effort helpful and fruitful to the Muslims, forgive our shortcomings, purify our work from hypocrisy and conceit, and accept it from us.

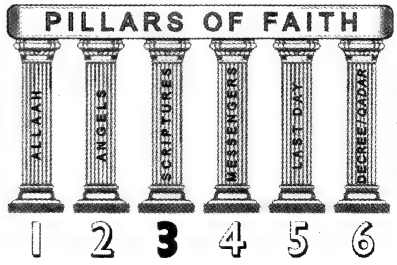
Our Lord, forgive us and all of the believers, and bestow Your peace and praise upon our Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ).

مُحَمَّد بن مُصْطفى ٱلجبالي
*Muhammad Mustafaa al-Jibaly*
Al-Madeenah al-Munawwarah
Wednesday, 23 *Sha'baan* 1428
5 September 2007

# CHAPTER 1

# THE THIRD PILLAR

## The Six Pillars of Faith




In the first book of this series (Knowing Allaah), we discussed the Six Pillars of Faith. They were mentioned in the *hadeeth* of Jibreel (عليه السلام) — when he came to the Prophet (ﷺ) and asked him about Islaam, *Eemaan*, *Ihsaan*, and the Last Hour. The Six Pillars are:

1. Belief in Allaah
2. Belief in the angels
3. **Belief in the books**
4. Belief in the messengers
5. Belief in the Last Day
6. Belief in the *qadar*.

We must believe in all of these pillars. Allaah (تعالى) mentions the first four of them in the following *aayah*:

﴿ءَامَنَ ٱلرَّسُولُ بِمَآ أُنزِلَ إِلَيْهِ مِن رَّبِّهِۦ وَٱلْمُؤْمِنُونَ ۚ كُلٌّ ءَامَنَ بِٱللَّهِ وَمَلَٰٓئِكَتِهِۦ وَكُتُبِهِۦ وَرُسُلِهِۦ﴾ البقرة ٢٨٥

**«The Messenger (Muhammad) believes in what was sent down to him from his Lord (Allaah). The believers do too. They all believe in Allaah, His angels, His books, and His messengers.»** [1]

Allaah (ﷻ) also mentions five of the pillars in the following:

﴿لَيْسَ ٱلْبِرَّ أَن تُوَلُّوا۟ وُجُوهَكُمْ قِبَلَ ٱلْمَشْرِقِ وَٱلْمَغْرِبِ، وَلَٰكِنَّ ٱلْبِرَّ مَنْ ءَامَنَ بِٱللَّهِ وَٱلْيَوْمِ ٱلْأَخِرِ وَٱلْمَلَٰٓئِكَةِ وَٱلْكِتَٰبِ وَٱلنَّبِيِّۦنَ، ...﴾ البقرة ١٧٧

**«Righteousness does not (only) mean that you turn your faces toward east or west (in the prayer); righteousness is believing in Allaah, the Last Day, the angels, the books (of Allaah), and the prophets, ...»** [2]

Anyone who does not believe in every single one of these pillars is not a true believer. Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿وَمَن يَكْفُرْ بِٱللَّهِ وَمَلَٰٓئِكَتِهِۦ وَكُتُبِهِۦ وَرُسُلِهِۦ وَٱلْيَوْمِ ٱلْأَخِرِ فَقَدْ ضَلَّ ضَلَٰلًۢا بَعِيدًا ۝﴾ النساء ١٣٦

**«Anyone who does not believe in Allaah,**

1 *Soorat al-Baqarah* 2:285.
2 *Soorat al-Baqarah* 2:177.

**His angels, His books, His messengers, or the Last Day, is surely greatly misguided.»** [1]

A true believer must believe in all of Allaah's books. Believing in the books that Allaah revealed is the third pillar of belief. This is our subject of study in this book.

## Knowing the Books

### THE REVELATION (OR *WAHY*)

An important pillar of our faith is believing that Allaah (ﷻ) sent down (or revealed) books to His messengers. The messengers used the books to teach their nations and guide them to the right path. Allaah (ﷻ) commands us to believe in His books. He says:

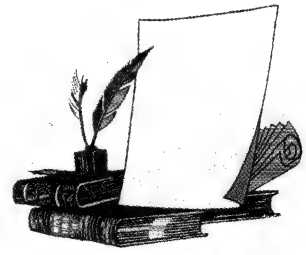
﴿يَـٰٓأَيُّهَا ٱلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوٓاْ ءَامِنُواْ بِٱللَّهِ وَرَسُولِهِ وَٱلْكِتَـٰبِ ٱلَّذِي نَزَّلَ عَلَىٰ رَسُولِهِ وَٱلْكِتَـٰبِ ٱلَّذِيٓ أَنزَلَ مِن قَبْلُ.﴾ النساء ١٣٦

**«O you who believe, believe in Allaah, His Messenger, the Book that He revealed to His Messenger, and the books that He**

1 *Soorat an-Nisaa'* 4:136.

**revealed before.»** [1]

The books that Allaah sent down are part of His "revelations". In Arabic, "revelation" means *"wahy"*. The revelations are sometimes in the form of books or sheets, which are also called "scriptures".



After the messengers received the revelations from Allaah, their followers wrote them down and made them into books or sheets. But sometimes, the messengers received them already written, as in the case of Moosaa (عليه السلام) who received the Tawraah from Allaah written on little boards.

Not all of the revelations that Allaah (سبحانه وتعالى) sent to His Messengers were in the form of written scriptures. Sometimes, they were instructions (or teachings) that Allaah inspired (or taught) directly to the prophets. Inspirations are teachings that are put into the hearts of the prophets, but not in book-form.

For example, Allaah (سبحانه وتعالى) revealed to his Last Messenger, Muhammad (ﷺ), the Book called the Qur'aan. He also inspired him with other things that are not part of the Book. They are called the Sunnah. The Sunnah consists of everything that the Prophet (ﷺ) said or did.

---

1 *Soorat an-Nisaa'* 4:136.

### TEACHINGS OF THE REVELATIONS

Allaah's revelations carried the most useful knowledge to people. For example, they contained:

* Instructions from Allaah (ﷻ) telling the people what to do in this life: How to have good manners, perform correct worship, and avoid sins.

* Stories about the previous nations and prophets, showing how Allaah (ﷻ) rewarded the righteous and punished the disobedient.

* Information about the next life: resurrection, judgment, *Jannah,* and Hell.

The only way for us to truly know about Allaah's books is through what He tells us in His Last Book, the Qur'aan, and in the Sunnah of His Last Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ).

We should learn about Allaah's books and understand, as much as possible, what is in them.

From our knowledge about Allaah's books, we can learn the answers to many important questions that we may wonder about. For example:

* We can learn what things are common to all of the books.

* We can learn what Allaah told His previous

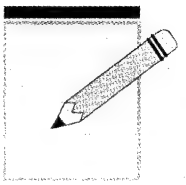
messengers, and what they told their people.

* We can learn how the *kuffaar* (nonbelievers) of the past changed the books that Allaah gave them.

* We can learn that Allaah sent the Last Book, the Qur'aan, that no one can change.

We can learn many other things that will be discussed in this book — *inshaa' Allaah.*

## Questions and Exercises



1. In the following table, check all true statements (10 points):

| | Statement | ✓ |
|---|---|---|
| a | There are five pillars of faith. | |
| b | We must believe in all of the pillars of faith. | |
| c | Belief in Allaah's books is one of the pillars of faith. | |
| d | *"Wahy"* includes all teachings that Allaah sent down an revealed to the messengers. | |
| e | We do not need to believe in any scripture other than the Qur'aan. | |
| f | We can only learn about Allaah's books from the historians. | |
| g | The messengers used their scriptures to teach and guide their nations. | |
| h | The scriptures are only a part of Allaah's revelations. | |
| i | The messengers always received their scriptures written on boards or tablets. | |
| j | The Qur'aan and the Sunnah were both inspired to the Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ). | |

2. Mention three main subjects that are taught in Allaah's books (6 points):

| |
|---|
| 1 |
| 2 |
| 3 |

3. Mention three benefits of learning about Allaah's books (6 points):

| |
|---|
| 1 |
| 2 |
| 3 |

# CHAPTER 2

# THE BOOKS THAT WE KNOW

## Allaah Revealed Many Books

Allaah (ﷻ) tells us that He sent revelations to each one of His prophets. He says:

﴿قُولُوٓاْ: "ءَامَنَّا بِٱللَّهِ، وَمَآ أُنزِلَ إِلَيْنَا، وَمَآ أُنزِلَ إِلَىٰٓ إِبْرَٰهِيمَ وَإِسْمَٰعِيلَ وَإِسْحَٰقَ وَيَعْقُوبَ وَٱلْأَسْبَاطِ، وَمَآ أُوتِيَ مُوسَىٰ وَعِيسَىٰ، وَمَآ أُوتِيَ ٱلنَّبِيُّونَ مِن رَّبِّهِمْ، لَا نُفَرِّقُ بَيْنَ أَحَدٍ مِّنْهُمْ، وَنَحْنُ لَهُۥ مُسْلِمُونَ." ۝﴾ البقرة ١٣٦

**«Say, "We believe in Allaah, and what was revealed to us, and what was revealed to Ibraaheem, Ismaa'eel, Is-haaq, Ya'qoob, and the Sons (of Ya'qoob), and what was given to Moosaa and 'Eesaa, and what was given to the prophets from their Lord — we make no difference between any them, and we submit ourselves to Him (Allaah)."»** [1]

1 *Soorat al-Baqarah* 2:136.

Allaah (ﷻ) also says:

﴿إِنَّآ أَوْحَيْنَآ إِلَيْكَ كَمَآ أَوْحَيْنَآ إِلَىٰ نُوحٍ وَٱلنَّبِيِّـۧنَ مِنۢ بَعْدِهِۦ ۚ وَأَوْحَيْنَآ إِلَىٰٓ إِبْرَٰهِيمَ وَإِسْمَٰعِيلَ وَإِسْحَٰقَ وَيَعْقُوبَ وَٱلْأَسْبَاطِ وَعِيسَىٰ وَأَيُّوبَ وَيُونُسَ وَهَٰرُونَ وَسُلَيْمَٰنَ ۚ وَءَاتَيْنَا دَاوُۥدَ زَبُورًا ۞﴾ النساء ١٦٣

**«We have surely revealed to you, like We revealed to Nooh and the prophets after him. We also revealed to Ibraaheem, Ismaa'eel, Is-haaq, Ya'qoob, the Sons (of Ya'qoob), 'Eesaa, Ayyoob, Yoonus, Haaroon, and Sulaymaan. We also gave to Daawood a Zaboor.»** [1]

Allaah's revelations are teachings that He told to His prophets to guide their nations and show them what to do in their life.

As we said in the previous chapter, the revelations were sometimes in the form of unwritten inspirations. Other times, the revelations that Allaah (ﷻ) gave to His prophets were in the form of books or scriptures.

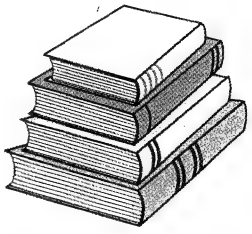
Allaah mentions in the above *aayah* that He revealed a Zaboor to Daawood. Similarly, Allaah says to the

1 *Soorat an-Nisaa'* 4:163.

Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ):

﴿ نَزَّلَ عَلَيْكَ ٱلْكِتَٰبَ بِٱلْحَقِّ مُصَدِّقًا لِّمَا بَيْنَ يَدَيْهِ، وَأَنزَلَ ٱلتَّوْرَىٰةَ وَٱلْإِنجِيلَ ۞ مِن قَبْلُ هُدًى لِّلنَّاسِ، وَأَنزَلَ ٱلْفُرْقَانَ. ﴾ آل عمران ٣-٤

**«He sent down to you the Book in truth, confirming the books that preceded it. Before that, He had sent down the Tawraah and the Injeel as guidance for the people. He also sent (in the books) what tells right from wrong.»** [1]



Allaah (ﷻ) did not tell us the names of all the books that He (ﷻ) sent down to His messengers. He only told us of a few that we will discuss below.

The followers of a prophet who received a book from Allaah would normally be called *"Ahl-ul-Kitaab"* which means "People of the Book" or "People of the Scripture". However, all books prior to the Qur'aan have been totally lost through time — except for the books of the Jews and the Christians. Because of this, the term *"Ahl-ul-Kitaab"* in the Qur'aan and the Sunnah only refers to the Christians, the Jews, or both.

1 *Soorat Aal-'Imraan* 3:3-4.

## The Scriptures of Ibraaheem

The scriptures that Allaah (ﷻ) sent down to Ibraaheem (عليه السلام) were in the form of sheets (*suhuf*). In early times, there was no paper. People wrote on leather, wood, and other things. They would usually write on separate sheets or leafs that were not bound into books. Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿إِنَّ هَٰذَا لَفِي ٱلصُّحُفِ ٱلأُولَىٰ ۝ صُحُفِ إِبْرَٰهِيمَ وَمُوسَىٰ ۝﴾ الأعلى ١٨-١٩

**«This surely is mentioned in the early scripture — the sheets of Ibraaheem and Moosaa.»** [1]

Allaah also says:

﴿أَمْ لَمْ يُنَبَّأْ بِمَا فِي صُحُفِ مُوسَىٰ ۝ وَإِبْرَٰهِيمَ ٱلَّذِي وَفَّىٰٓ؟ ۝﴾ النجم ٣٦-٣٧

**«Or, has he (the nonbeliever) not been told about what was in the sheets of Moosaa, and also (the sheets of) Ibraaheem who delivered the complete message?»** [2]

---

1 *Soorat al-A'laa* 87:18-19.
2 *Soorat an-Najm* 53:36-37.

This *aayah* indicates that Ibraaheem (عليه السلام) delivered to the people the complete teachings and advices that he received from Allaah (سبحانه وتعالى).

## The Tawraah

Moosaa (عليه السلام) was sent to teach and lead the Jews. The Jews are sometimes called the Children of Israel because they descend from Ya'qoob (عليه السلام). Ya'qoob had another name, Israa'eel. There are many other prophets that Allaah sent to the Jews.

The book that Allaah (سبحانه وتعالى) revealed to Moosaa (عليه السلام) is called the Tawraah (or Torah). Sometimes, Allaah mentions it by name, and sometimes He only calls it "sheets" (*suhuf*) or "book" (*kitaab*). Allaah (سبحانه وتعالى) says:

﴿وَءَاتَيْنَا مُوسَى ٱلْكِتَٰبَ، وَجَعَلْنَٰهُ هُدًى لِّبَنِي إِسْرَٰٓءِيلَ.﴾ الإسراء ٢

**«We gave Moosaa the book and made it a guidance for the Children of Israel.»** [1]

And Allaah (سبحانه وتعالى) says:

﴿إِنَّا أَنزَلْنَا ٱلتَّوْرَىٰةَ فِيهَا هُدًى وَنُورٌ.﴾ المائدة ٤٤

**«We have surely sent down the Tawraah. There was in it guidance and light.»** [2]

1 *Soorat al-Israa'* 17:2.
2 *Soorat al-Maa'idah* 5:44.

## The Zaboor

Daawood (عليه السلام) was also from the Children of Israel. Allaah sent down to him a book called "Zaboor". In English, it is called "Psalms".

In Arabic, *zabara* has the same meaning as *kataba*: wrote. Similarly, *zaboor* has the same meaning as *kitaab*: book. When "*zaboor*" is mentioned in the Qur'aan, it sometimes means "book" or "scripture", but most often, it means the book of Daawood.

Allaah (تعالى) says:

﴿وَلَقَدْ فَضَّلْنَا بَعْضَ ٱلنَّبِيِّـۧنَ عَلَىٰ بَعْضٍ، وَءَاتَيْنَا دَاوُۥدَ زَبُورًا ۞﴾ الإسراء ٥٥

**«We have surely made some prophets better than others, and We gave Daawood a Zaboor (or book).»** [1]

Allaah (تعالى) also says:

﴿وَلَقَدْ كَتَبْنَا فِى ٱلزَّبُورِ مِنۢ بَعْدِ ٱلذِّكْرِ أَنَّ ٱلْأَرْضَ يَرِثُهَا عِبَادِىَ ٱلصَّـٰلِحُونَ ۞﴾ الأنبياء ١٠٥

**«We have surely written in the Zaboor, after the Previous Mention, that the Land**

1 *Soorat al-Israa'* 17:55.

**will be inherited (or won) by My righteous servants.»** [1]

In this *aayah*, the "Previous Mention" or "*Thikr*" has two possible true meanings:

1. Moosaa's book, the Tawraah, preceded the Zaboor and mentioned similar things. Similar to the Qur'aan, the Tawraah was a *thikr* because it reminded the people about Allaah and guided them to Him.

2. Before its revelation, the Zaboor was in the Preserved Tablet (*al-Lawh ul-Mahfooz*). *Al-Lawh ul-Mahfooz* is a great record in the heavens. It is like a book of countless volumes. Allaah (ﷻ) included in it a tremendous amount of knowledge. For example, it contains all of the original books that Allaah revealed. It also contains all details about what is to happen in this world from its beginning until the Last Hour.

When Allaah revealed one of His books, the angels copied it down from *al-Lawh ul-Mahfooz* in the heavens and brought it down to earth.

1 *Soorat al-Anbiyaa'* 21:105.

## The Injeel

'Eesaa (عليه السلام) is called "Jesus" in English. He is the last prophet that Allaah (تعالى) sent to the Children of Israel. Allaah gave him a book called the Injeel (or Gospel). Allaah (تعالى) says:

﴿وَقَفَّيْنَا عَلَىٰٓ ءَاثَـٰرِهِم بِعِيسَى ٱبْنِ مَرْيَمَ مُصَدِّقًا لِّمَا بَيْنَ يَدَيْهِ مِنَ ٱلتَّوْرَىٰةِ، وَءَاتَيْنَـٰهُ ٱلْإِنجِيلَ فِيهِ هُدًى وَنُورٌ، وَمُصَدِّقًا لِّمَا بَيْنَ يَدَيْهِ مِنَ ٱلتَّوْرَىٰةِ، وَهُدًى وَمَوْعِظَةً لِّلْمُتَّقِينَ ۝﴾ المائدة ٤٦

**«And We sent, following in their (the previous prophets') footsteps, 'Eesaa the son of Maryam. He confirmed the Tawraah that preceded him. We also gave him the Injeel that contained guidance and light. It confirmed the Tawraah that came before it and contained guidance and advice for the pious.»** [1]

Allaah (تعالى) also says:

﴿ وَلَقَدْ أَرْسَلْنَا نُوحًا وَإِبْرَٰهِيمَ، وَجَعَلْنَا فِي ذُرِّيَّتِهِمَا ٱلنُّبُوَّةَ وَٱلْكِتَـٰبَ، فَمِنْهُم مُّهْتَدٍ، وَكَثِيرٌ مِّنْهُمْ فَـٰسِقُونَ ۝ ثُمَّ قَفَّيْنَا عَلَىٰٓ ءَاثَـٰرِهِم بِرُسُلِنَا، وَقَفَّيْنَا بِعِيسَى ٱبْنِ مَرْيَمَ،

1 *Soorat al-Maa'idah* 5:46.

وَءَاتَيْنَٰهُ ٱلْإِنجِيلَ.﴾ الحديد ٢٦-٢٧

**«We surely sent Nooh and Ibraaheem (as prophets) and gave their descendants (or children) prophethood and scripture. But only some of them were guided (to good), and many of them rejected (the guidance). Then We sent after them Our (other) messengers, and We followed them with 'Eesaa the son of Maryam and gave him the Injeel.»** [1]

And Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿إِذْ قَالَ ٱللَّهُ: "يَٰعِيسَى ٱبْنَ مَرْيَمَ ٱذْكُرْ نِعْمَتِي عَلَيْكَ وَعَلَىٰ وَٰلِدَتِكَ، إِذْ أَيَّدتُّكَ بِرُوحِ ٱلْقُدُسِ، تُكَلِّمُ ٱلنَّاسَ فِي ٱلْمَهْدِ وَكَهْلاً، وَإِذْ عَلَّمْتُكَ ٱلْكِتَٰبَ وَٱلْحِكْمَةَ وَٱلتَّوْرَىٰةَ وَٱلإِنجِيلَ."﴾

المائدة ١١٠

**«And (mention) when (on Judgment Day) Allaah will say, "O 'Eesaa, Son of Maryam, remember My favor upon you and your mother: I supported you with the Pure Spirit (Jibreel), you spoke to the people in the cradle and as an adult, and I taught you writing and wisdom and the**

1 *Soorat al-Hadeed* 57:26-27.

**Tawraah and the Injeel."»** [1]

And Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿ وَيُعَلِّمُهُ ٱلْكِتَٰبَ وَٱلْحِكْمَةَ وَٱلتَّوْرَىٰةَ وَٱلْإِنجِيلَ ۝ ﴾ آل عمران ٤٨

**«(The angels also told Maryam,) "And He (Allaah) will teach him (your son 'Eesaa) writing and wisdom and the Tawraah and the Injeel."»** [2]

1 *Soorat al-Maa'idah* 5:110.
2 *Soorat Aal 'Imraan* 3:48.

## Questions and Exercises

1. In the following table, check all true statements (13 points):

| | Statement | ✓ |
|---|---|---|
| a | Allaah only gives revelation to only some of His prophets. | |
| b | The sons of Moosaa received revelation. | |
| c | The prophets used their revelations to guide their nations. | |
| d | We know the names of all the books that Allaah revealed. | |
| e | "People of the Book" means "people who know how to read". | |
| f | The *suhuf* of Ibraaheem and Moosaa were of the early scriptures. | |
| g | Ibraaheem (عليه السلام) delivered the complete message. | |
| h | Allaah made some prophets better than others. | |
| i | 'Eesaa was from the descendants of Nooh and Ibraaheem. | |
| j | 'Eesaa was taught the Injeel but did not know the Tawraah. | |
| k | 'Eesaa spoke when he was a newborn. | |

| | Statement | ✓ |
|---|---|---|
| l | "Zaboor" means "book". | |
| m | Among the revealed books are, the Qur'aan, the Ingeel, the Tawraah, and the Arabian Nights. | |

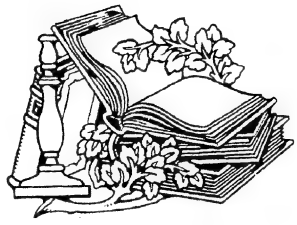
2. Match each book on the right with the corresponding prophet from the list on the left. (5 points)

| | |
|---|---|
| Nooh | Al-Qur'aan |
| Ibraaheem | |
| Idrees | At-Tawraah |
| Muhammad | |
| Ismaa'eel | Az-Zaboor |
| Ishaaq | |
| Moosaa | Al-Injeel |
| 'Eesaa | |
| Yoosuf | As-Suhuf |
| Daawood | |

3. Describe *al-Lawh ul-Mahfooz*. (4 points)

# CHAPTER 3

# WHAT IS IN ALLAAH'S BOOKS



The Books that Allaah (ﷻ) revealed before the Qur'aan taught many important things. But they were changed by the people over time, and a lot of the good things in them were lost. But Allaah (ﷻ) tells us in the Qur'aan some of the important teachings that were in His previous books.

## Some Teachings of the Books

### THEY CONTAINED GUIDANCE

Allaah (ﷻ) sends His books to guide us to what is good for us in our life, and to warn us from what is bad for us. So, Allaah's books contain guidance. Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿إِنَّا أَنزَلْنَا ٱلتَّوْرَىٰةَ فِيهَا هُدًى وَنُورٌ﴾ المائدة ٤٤

**«We have surely sent down the Tawraah.**

**There was guidance and light in it.»** [1]

And Allaah says:

﴿وَءَاتَيْنَا مُوسَى ٱلْكِتَٰبَ، وَجَعَلْنَٰهُ هُدًى لِّبَنِي إِسْرَٰٓءِيلَ.﴾ الإسراء ٢

**«We gave Moosaa the book and made it a guidance for the Children of Israel.»** [2]

### THEY TOLD ABOUT MUHAMMAD AND HIS COMPANIONS

The books that Allaah (ﷻ) gave to the previous prophets told the people about our Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ). The books taught them that Muhammad (ﷺ) will guide them to doing good and keeping away from evil. The books taught them that if they lived to see Muhammad (ﷺ), they should follow him. Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿ٱلَّذِينَ يَتَّبِعُونَ ٱلرَّسُولَ ٱلنَّبِيَّ ٱلْأُمِّيَّ ٱلَّذِي يَجِدُونَهُۥ مَكْتُوبًا
عِندَهُمْ فِي ٱلتَّوْرَىٰةِ وَٱلْإِنجِيلِ، يَأْمُرُهُم بِٱلْمَعْرُوفِ وَيَنْهَىٰهُمْ
عَنِ ٱلْمُنكَرِ، وَيُحِلُّ لَهُمُ ٱلطَّيِّبَٰتِ وَيُحَرِّمُ عَلَيْهِمُ ٱلْخَبَٰٓئِثَ،
وَيَضَعُ عَنْهُمْ إِصْرَهُمْ وَٱلْأَغْلَٰلَ ٱلَّتِي كَانَتْ عَلَيْهِمْ؛ فَٱلَّذِينَ
ءَامَنُواْ بِهِۦ وَعَزَّرُوهُ وَنَصَرُوهُ وَٱتَّبَعُواْ ٱلنُّورَ ٱلَّذِيٓ أُنزِلَ مَعَهُۥٓ،

1 *Soorat al-Maa'idah* 5:44.
2 *Soorat al-Israa'* 17:2.

أُوْلَٰٓئِكَ هُمُ ٱلْمُفْلِحُونَ ۝﴾ الأعراف ١٥٧

**«Those who follow the Messenger, the Unlettered Prophet [1], whom they find mentioned in what they have of the Tawraah and Injeel. He commands them to do the right things, forbids them from doing wrong things, makes the good things (like good foods) *halaal* (lawful) for them, makes the evil things (like pig and wine) *haraam* (forbidden) for them, and relieves them of their burden and the chains that were upon them [2]. So those who will believe in him, respect him, support him, and follow the light that was sent down with him — it is those who will be truly successful.»** [3]

The previous books also told about the *sahaabah* (or companions) of the Prophet (ﷺ). Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿مُحَمَّدٌ رَّسُولُ ٱللَّهِ، وَٱلَّذِينَ مَعَهُۥٓ أَشِدَّآءُ عَلَى ٱلْكُفَّارِ رُحَمَآءُ
بَيْنَهُمْ، تَرَاهُمْ رُكَّعًا سُجَّدًا يَبْتَغُونَ فَضْلًا مِّنَ ٱللَّهِ وَرِضْوَٰنًا؛
سِيمَاهُمْ فِي وُجُوهِهِم مِّنْ أَثَرِ ٱلسُّجُودِ؛ ذَٰلِكَ مَثَلُهُمْ فِي

1 This means that he does not read or write.
2 This means that he will make their religion simple and easy to follow.
3 *Soorat al-An'aam* 7:157.

ٱلتَّوْرَىٰةِ؛ وَمَثَلُهُمْ فِي ٱلإِنجِيلِ كَزَرْعٍ أَخْرَجَ شَطْـَٔهُۥ فَـَٔازَرَهُۥ فَٱسْتَغْلَظَ فَٱسْتَوَىٰ عَلَىٰ سُوقِهِۦ يُعْجِبُ ٱلزُّرَّاعَ لِيَغِيظَ بِهِمُ ٱلْكُفَّارَ؛ وَعَدَ ٱللَّهُ ٱلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُواْ وَعَمِلُواْ ٱلصَّٰلِحَٰتِ مِنْهُم مَّغْفِرَةً وَأَجْرًا عَظِيمًا ۞﴾ الفتح ٢٩

**«Muhammad is the Messenger of Allaah; and those who are with him are mighty against the *kuffaar* (nonbelievers) and merciful to each other. You see them bowing in *rukoo'* and *sujood* in order to get favors from Allaah and please Him. They have marks on their faces (or foreheads) because of *sujood*. That is how they are described in the Tawraah. And they are described in the Injeel as a plant giving new branches and helping them grow firm and stand upon their stems. This delights the farmers, and He (Allaah) will annoy the *kuffaar* by them. Allaah has promised those of them who believe and do good deeds forgiveness and great rewards.»** [1]

### THEY TAUGHT THE PEOPLE HOW TO JUDGE

In His books, Allaah (ﷻ) told His prophets and their

1 *Soorat al-Fat-h* 48:29.

followers how to judge among the people. He (ﷻ) says:

﴿إِنَّا أَنزَلْنَا ٱلتَّوْرَىٰةَ فِيهَا هُدًى وَنُورٌ يَحْكُمُ بِهَا ٱلنَّبِيُّونَ ٱلَّذِينَ أَسْلَمُوا۟ لِلَّذِينَ هَادُوا۟، وَٱلرَّبَّٰنِيُّونَ وَٱلْأَحْبَارُ بِمَا ٱسْتُحْفِظُوا۟ مِن كِتَٰبِ ٱللَّهِ وَكَانُوا۟ عَلَيْهِ شُهَدَآءَ ... وَمَن لَّمْ يَحْكُم بِمَآ أَنزَلَ ٱللَّهُ فَأُو۟لَٰٓئِكَ هُمُ ٱلْكَٰفِرُونَ ۝﴾ المائدة ٤٤

**«We have surely sent down the Tawraah. There was in it guidance and light. The prophets who obeyed Allaah judged the Jews by it; also the rabbis and priests (judged by it after the prophets) because they were entrusted to protect Allaah's scripture, and they were witnesses on that ... And whoever does not judge by what Allaah has revealed, he is of the nonbelievers.»** [1]

Allaah told in the Tawraah what punishment is due for different crimes. A killer is killed, a person who knocks out another person's eye loses his eye, and so on. Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿وَكَتَبْنَا عَلَيْهِمْ فِيهَآ أَنَّ ٱلنَّفْسَ بِٱلنَّفْسِ، وَٱلْعَيْنَ بِٱلْعَيْنِ، وَٱلْأَنفَ بِٱلْأَنفِ، وَٱلْأُذُنَ بِٱلْأُذُنِ، وَٱلسِّنَّ بِٱلسِّنِّ، وَٱلْجُرُوحَ

1 *Soorat al-Maa'idah* 5:44.

قِصَاصٌ. فَمَن تَصَدَّقَ بِهِ فَهُوَ كَفَّارَةٌ لَّهُۥ. وَمَن لَّمْ يَحْكُم بِمَآ أَنزَلَ ٱللَّهُ فَأُوْلَٰٓئِكَ هُمُ ٱلظَّٰلِمُونَ ۞﴾ المائدة ٤٥

**«We commanded them in it (the Tawraah): a life for a life, an eye for an eye, a nose for a nose, an ear for an ear, a tooth for a tooth, and wounds equal for equal. But whoever gives up his right as charity, it will be an expiation (forgiveness of sins) for him. And whoever does not judge by what Allaah has revealed, he is of the wrong-doers.»** [1]

### THEY CALLED TO SACRIFICING FOR ALLAAH

In His books, Allaah (ﷻ) tells the believers that they should be ready to sacrifice for His sake. Those who sacrifice for Allaah will be given *Jannah*. Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿إِنَّ ٱللَّهَ ٱشْتَرَىٰ مِنَ ٱلْمُؤْمِنِينَ أَنفُسَهُمْ وَأَمْوَٰلَهُم بِأَنَّ لَهُمُ ٱلْجَنَّةَ؛ يُقَٰتِلُونَ فِي سَبِيلِ ٱللَّهِ فَيَقْتُلُونَ وَيُقْتَلُونَ، وَعْدًا عَلَيْهِ حَقًّا فِي ٱلتَّوْرَىٰةِ وَٱلْإِنجِيلِ وَٱلْقُرْءَانِ، وَمَنْ أَوْفَىٰ بِعَهْدِهِۦ مِنَ ٱللَّهِ؟ فَٱسْتَبْشِرُوا۟ بِبَيْعِكُمُ ٱلَّذِي بَايَعْتُم بِهِۦ، وَذَٰلِكَ هُوَ ٱلْفَوْزُ ٱلْعَظِيمُ ۞﴾ التوبة ١١١

1 *Soorat al-Maa'idah* 5:45.

> **«Allaah has surely bought from the believers their lives and properties in exchange for *Jannah*. They are required to fight for the cause of Allaah, so that they would kill (their enemies) or be killed (as martyrs). This is a true promise from Him that came in the Tawraah, the Injeel, and the Qur'aan. And who is more true to his promise than Allaah? So be glad about the deal that you made (with Allaah); and this is the great success.»** [1]

### THEY TAUGHT THAT THE FINAL VICTORY IS FOR THE RIGHTEOUS

Allaah (ﷻ) gives power and victory to the believers. This was mentioned in the Zaboor. Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿وَلَقَدْ كَتَبْنَا فِي ٱلزَّبُورِ مِن بَعْدِ ٱلذِّكْرِ أَنَّ ٱلأَرْضَ يَرِثُهَا عِبَادِيَ ٱلصَّٰلِحُونَ ۝﴾ الأنبياء ١٠٥

> **«We have surely written in the Zaboor, after the Previous Mention, that the Land will be inherited by My righteous servants.»** [2]

This *aayah* tells us that the good believers are the ones who will have the final victory on Earth. More

1 *Soorat at-Tawbah* 9:111.
2 *Soorat al-Anbiyaa'* 21:105.

importantly, they are the ones who will win *Jannah* in the next life.

### THEY REMINDED OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE NEXT LIFE

The pleasures and happiness of *Jannah* in the next life are far better than the pleasures of this life. In this life, there is pain and suffering. In *Jannah*, there is none of that. Also, our life in this world is very short. But the life of the hereafter lasts forever. It would be foolish to prefer the pleasures of this world over the pleasures of *Jannah*. Yet, most people do that, because they are weak and are blinded by the pleasures of this life. Allaah (ﷻ) mentions this in the Qur'aan and tells us that it was also in the previous scriptures:

﴿بَلْ تُؤْثِرُونَ ٱلْحَيَوٰةَ ٱلدُّنْيَا ۞ وَٱلْأَخِرَةُ خَيْرٌ وَأَبْقَىٰٓ ۞
إِنَّ هَٰذَا لَفِي ٱلصُّحُفِ ٱلْأُولَىٰ ۞ صُحُفِ إِبْرَٰهِيمَ
وَمُوسَىٰ ۞﴾ الأعلى ١٦-١٩

**«You rather prefer the life of this world. But the last life is better and lasts longer. This surely is also mentioned in the early scriptures — the scriptures of Ibraaheem and Moosaa.»** [1]

1 *Soorat al-A'laa* 87:16-19.

### THEY TOLD THAT EVERYONE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS OWN SINS

Our deeds, good or bad, are written in our record. There is no mistake in this. No one will find his sins given to someone else, or someone else's sins given to him. Allaah (ﷻ) is most Fair, and He will judge us according to what WE did. Allaah (ﷻ) mentioned this in his previous books:

﴿أَمْ لَمْ يُنَبَّأْ بِمَا فِي صُحُفِ مُوسَىٰ ۝ وَإِبْرَاهِيمَ الَّذِي وَفَّىٰ ۝ أَلَّا تَزِرُ وَازِرَةٌ وِزْرَ أُخْرَىٰ ۝ وَأَن لَّيْسَ لِلْإِنسَانِ إِلَّا مَا سَعَىٰ ۝ وَأَنَّ سَعْيَهُ سَوْفَ يُرَىٰ ۝﴾ النجم ٣٦-٤٠

**«Or, has he (the nonbeliever) not been told about what was in the scriptures of Moosaa, and also of Ibraaheem who delivered the complete message — that no one will carry someone else's weight (of sins), and that no human being will get rewards except for what he did, and that his work will be seen (on Judgment Day)?»** [1]

## People Must Follow The Books

We have to completely follow our Book: the Qur'aan.

1 *Soorat an-Najm* 53:36-54.

Similarly, the people of the previous prophets had to completely follow their books. If they did, they would be rewarded; and if they did not, they would be punished.

### REWARDS FOR FOLLOWING THE BOOKS

The most important reward for following Allaah's books is guidance. Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿وَقَفَّيْنَا عَلَىٰٓ ءَاثَارِهِم بِعِيسَى ٱبْنِ مَرْيَمَ مُصَدِّقًا لِّمَا بَيْنَ يَدَيْهِ مِنَ ٱلتَّوْرَىٰةِ، وَءَاتَيْنَٰهُ ٱلْإِنجِيلَ فِيهِ هُدًى وَنُورٌ، وَمُصَدِّقًا لِّمَا بَيْنَ يَدَيْهِ مِنَ ٱلتَّوْرَىٰةِ، وَهُدًى وَمَوْعِظَةً لِّلْمُتَّقِينَ ۝﴾ المائدة ٤٦

> **«And We sent, following in their footsteps, 'Eesaa the son of Maryam (Mary). He confirmed the Tawraah that came before him. We also gave him the Injeel that contained guidance and light. It confirmed the Tawraah that came before it, and contained guidance and admonishment for the pious.»** [1]

When we are guided, we do righteous deeds that lead to happiness and success in this life and to *Jannah* in the next life.

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1 *Soorat al-Maa'idah* 5:46.

Allaah would have also given them food and joy from everywhere, from the sky above them, and from the earth underneath them.

Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿وَلَوْ أَنَّهُمْ أَقَامُواْ ٱلتَّوْرَىٰةَ وَٱلْإِنجِيلَ وَمَآ أُنزِلَ إِلَيْهِم مِّن رَّبِّهِمْ لَأَكَلُواْ مِن فَوْقِهِمْ وَمِن تَحْتِ أَرْجُلِهِمْ ۚ مِّنْهُمْ أُمَّةٌ مُّقْتَصِدَةٌ ۖ وَكَثِيرٌ مِّنْهُمْ سَآءَ مَا يَعْمَلُونَ ۝﴾ المائدة ٦٦

**«If only they had followed the Tawraah, the Ingeel, and what has now been revealed to them from their Lord (the Qur'aan), they would surely have gotten food from above them and from beneath their feet. Among them is a moderate (or good) community, but many of them do**

**evil deeds.»** [1]

### PUNISHMENT FOR NOT FOLLOWING THE BOOKS

We have seen that Allaah's books are full of goodness and benefits, and that following them brings many rewards. Only a foolish person would decide not to follow them.

When some people refuse to follow the guidance that Allaah (ﷻ) sent to them and they neglect His books, He becomes angry with them and punishes them.

Many of the Jews did not follow their book. This made Allaah (ﷻ) angry with them, and He said that they are like a donkey that carries on its back important books without benefitting from them. Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿مَثَلُ ٱلَّذِينَ حُمِّلُواْ ٱلتَّوْرَىٰةَ ثُمَّ لَمْ يَحْمِلُوهَا كَمَثَلِ ٱلْحِمَارِ يَحْمِلُ أَسْفَارًا﴾ الجمعة ٥

**«The example of those who were given the Tawraah but did not follow it is like a donkey carrying volumes of books.»** [2]

This is true about any person who does not follow the Book that Allaah (ﷻ) gave him. He would be as

1 *Soorat al-Maa'idah* 5:66.
2 *Soorat al-Jumu'ah* 62:5.

ignorant as a donkey — possessing books of wisdom would not make him wise.

Many people who do not follow Allaah's books are punished by becoming more sinful and disbelieving. They become totally blinded from seeing the truth. Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿قُلْ يَٰٓأَهْلَ ٱلْكِتَٰبِ لَسْتُمْ عَلَىٰ شَيْءٍ حَتَّىٰ تُقِيمُوا۟ ٱلتَّوْرَىٰةَ وَٱلْإِنجِيلَ وَمَآ أُنزِلَ إِلَيْكُم مِّن رَّبِّكُمْ ۗ وَلَيَزِيدَنَّ كَثِيرًا مِّنْهُم مَّآ أُنزِلَ إِلَيْكَ مِن رَّبِّكَ طُغْيَٰنًا وَكُفْرًا ۖ فَلَا تَأْسَ عَلَى ٱلْقَوْمِ ٱلْكَٰفِرِينَ ۝﴾ المائدة ٦٨

**«Say (O Muhammad), "O People of the Scripture, you have nothing (no guidance) until you act upon the Tawraah, the Injeel, and what has now been revealed to you from your Lord (the Qur'aan)."**

**Surely, for many of them, what has been revealed to you (O Muhammad) from your Lord will only add to their sinning and disbelief. So do not be sorry for the nonbelieving people.»** [1]

### Rejecting Allaah's Judgment

We have seen earlier that those who do not judge by

1 *Soorat al-Maa'idah* 5:68.

what Allaah revealed are wrongdoers, and that they are like the nonbelievers.

Some of the Jews came to the Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) asking him to judge among them — even though they had the judgment written in their books, and they did not follow it. So Allaah (ﷻ) revealed:

﴿وَكَيْفَ يُحَكِّمُونَكَ وَعِندَهُمُ ٱلتَّوْرَىٰةُ فِيهَا حُكْمُ ٱللَّهِ، ثُمَّ يَتَوَلَّوْنَ مِن بَعْدِ ذَٰلِكَ، وَمَآ أُوْلَٰٓئِكَ بِٱلْمُؤْمِنِينَ ۞﴾ المائدة ٤٣

**«How is it that they come to you for judgment while they have the Tawraah that has Allaah's judgment? Yet even after that, they turn away — for those are not true believers.»** [1]

Similarly, the followers of 'Eesaa (عليه السلام) were supposed to judge by what Allaah (ﷻ) revealed. Allaah says:

﴿وَلْيَحْكُمْ أَهْلُ ٱلْإِنجِيلِ بِمَآ أَنزَلَ ٱللَّهُ فِيهِ، وَمَن لَّمْ يَحْكُم بِمَآ أَنزَلَ ٱللَّهُ، فَأُوْلَٰٓئِكَ هُمُ ٱلْفَٰسِقُونَ ۞﴾ المائدة ٤٧

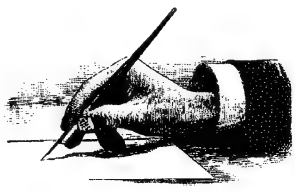
**«And let the People of the Injeel judge by what Allaah has revealed in it. Whoever does not judge by what Allaah has**

1 *Soorat al-Maa'idah* 5:43.

**revealed, he is one of the disobedient (to Allaah).»** [1]

### CHANGING ALLAAH'S BOOKS

In addition to not following Allaah's books, some people do more evil: they change the books so that no one would be able to tell what Allaah actually said. This is one of the greatest sins and acts of *kufr* (disbelief).



Some of the Jews made up writings and said that these writings were part of the Tawraah. They changed Allaah's words, and this made Him extremely angry with them. He (ﷻ) says:

﴿فَوَيْلٌ لِّلَّذِينَ يَكْتُبُونَ ٱلْكِتَٰبَ بِأَيْدِيهِمْ، ثُمَّ يَقُولُونَ هَٰذَا مِنْ عِندِ ٱللَّهِ لِيَشْتَرُواْ بِهِۦ ثَمَنًا قَلِيلاً، فَوَيْلٌ لَّهُم مِّمَّا كَتَبَتْ أَيْدِيهِمْ، وَوَيْلٌ لَّهُم مِّمَّا يَكْسِبُونَ ۝﴾ البقرة ٧٩

**«A great punishment to those who write the scripture with their own hands and then say that it is from Allaah, seeking by that to earn some little money. They deserve a great punishment because of what their hands wrote, and because of**

1 *Soorat al-Maa'idah* 5:47.

**what they earned.»** [1]

Anyone who changes Allaah's words deserves a great punishment, especially when they do it in order to please the wicked people and gain some money.

### PUNISHMENT FOR NOT FOLLOWING THE LAST BOOK

Allaah (ﷻ) ordered the People of the Scripture to accept the Qur'aan and follow it. If they do not do this, He will severely punish them. Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿يَٰٓأَيُّهَا ٱلَّذِينَ أُوتُواْ ٱلْكِتَٰبَ ءَامِنُواْ بِمَا نَزَّلْنَا مُصَدِّقًا لِّمَا مَعَكُم مِّن قَبْلِ أَن نَّطْمِسَ وُجُوهًا فَنَرُدَّهَا عَلَىٰٓ أَدْبَارِهَآ أَوْ نَلْعَنَهُمْ كَمَا لَعَنَّآ أَصْحَٰبَ ٱلسَّبْتِ، وَكَانَ أَمْرُ ٱللَّهِ مَفْعُولًا ۝﴾ النساء ٤٧

**«O you who were given the Scripture, believe in what We have now sent down (to Muhammad), confirming what you have (in your books), before We wipe out (your) faces and turn them backward [2], or curse them as We cursed those who broke**

1 *Soorat al-Baqarah* 2:79.

2 Turning their faces backward means making them face the wrong direction so as not to see the guidance or benefit from it.

**their Sabbath [1]. Surely, Allaah's commands are always fulfilled.» [2]**

## What to Do with Allaah's Books

### We Only Follow the Qur'aan

The last book from Allaah is the Qur'aan. All Muslims are required to believe in it, respect it, and follow it.

As for the previous books from Allaah (ﷻ), we should believe that they were sent down by Allaah. At one time, they were correct. But they were later changed by evil people. Because of this, we cannot follow them. Also, there is no need to follow them because the Qur'aan covers all of their teachings and more.

Jaabir Bin 'Abdillaah (رضي الله عنه) reported that once 'Umar Bin al-Khattaab (رضي الله عنه) took from a Jew a sheet of the Tawraah. He started reading from it in front of the Prophet (ﷺ), and the Prophet (ﷺ) became very upset and said:

«أَمُتَهَوِّكُونَ فيها يا ٱبْنَ الخَطّاب؟ وَالذي نَفْسي بيَدِهِ، لَقَدْ جِئْتُكُمْ بِها نَقِيَّةً. لَوْ أَنَّ أَخي موسى كانَ حَيّاً، ما وَسِعَهُ إلاَّ أَنْ يَتَّبِعَني.»

1 The Sabbath is a day of the week (Saturday) on which Allaah commanded the Jews to rest and avoid working. Some of them disobeyed Allaah and broke their Sabbath, which led to their severe punishment.

2 *Soorat an-Nisaa'* 4:47.

> **‹Do You have doubts about what I taught you, O Son of al-Khattaab? By the One Who has my soul in His hand (Allaah), I brought it (the religion) to you clear and pure; and if my brother Moosaa were alive, he would have had no choice but to follow me.›** [1]

#### NEITHER BELIEVE NOR DISBELIEVE!

We saw above that the People of the Scripture have changed their books. The books that they now have are not exactly what was revealed by Allaah. They contain some truth mixed with some falsehood. This applies to the Tawraah, the Zaboor, and the Injeel: All three of them (plus many others) are usually contained in one book that the Christians call "the Holy Book" or "the Bible".

When we hear or read something from the Bible, we should be careful and should not quickly say that it is right or wrong. We should remember that there are three possibilities:

1. If what we read agrees with Islaam, it may be truly from Allaah. But we cannot be sure that Allaah said it.

2. If it does not clearly agree or disagree with Islaam,

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1 Recorded by Ahmad, ad-Daarimee, and others. Verified to be authentic by al-Albaanee (in *Irwaa' ul-Ghaleel* no. 1589).

we say that it could possibly be Allaah's saying, but we cannot be sure of this either.

3. If it disagrees with Islaam, it cannot be from Allaah.

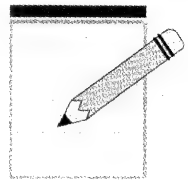
Abu Hurayrah (ﷺ) reported that the Jews used to read the Tawraah in Hebrew and then explain it in Arabic to the Muslims. So the Prophet (ﷺ) warned:

«لا تُصَدِّقوا أَهْلَ الكِتابِ، وَلا تُكَذِّبوهُمْ، وَقُولوا:
"آمَنَّا بِاللهِ وَما أُنْزِلَ إِلَيْنا وَما أُنْزِلَ إِلَيْكُمْ."»

**«Do not believe the People of the Book and do not disbelieve them. Just say to them, "We believe in Allaah and what was revealed to us and what was revealed to you."»** [1]

1 Recorded by al-Bukhaaree (4485, 7362, 7542).

## Questions and Exercises



1. In the following table, check all true statements (11 points):

| | Statement | ✓ |
|---|---|---|
| a | Allaah's previous books told about some things that were to happen in the future. | |
| b | Allaah's previous books taught that one should sacrifice for Allaah's sake. | |
| c | Allaah's previous books told who will be the true winner. | |
| d | Allaah's previous books taught the people that they did not have to follow the Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ). | |
| e | Allaah's previous books taught the people that they can share each other's sins. | |
| f | We must judge by what Allaah revealed. | |
| g | Allaah only fulfills His promise sometimes. | |
| h | Allaah gives good life to those who follow His books. | |
| i | A donkey can become wise by carrying big books on its back. | |

| | Statement | ✓ |
|---|---|---|
| j | Some of the People of the Scripture changed their books. | |
| k | Allaah may wipe out the faces of those who do not follow His books. | |

2. Check all forms of knowledge that were surely contained in Allaah's previous books (24 points):

| Knowledge | ✓ |
|---|---|
| Science | |
| Guidance | |
| Smart ways in business | |
| Poetry | |
| Typing | |
| Description of the Prophet Muhammad. | |

| Knowledge | ✓ |
|---|---|
| Wisdom | |
| Astronomy | |
| The Last Day | |
| Mathematics | |
| Music | |
| Judging among people | |

3. Explain briefly what it means that Allaah's books contained light. (4 points)

.....

.....

4. Mention what we should do when reading something from the previous books in each of the following cases (6 points):

| |
|---|
| 1. If what we read disagrees with Islaam. |
| 2. If what we read agrees with Islaam. |
| 3. If what we read neither seems to agree or disagree with Islaam. |

5. Mention five things that the Tawraah and Injeel said about the Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) (10 points):

| |
|---|
| 1 |
| 2 |
| 3 |
| 4 |
| 5 |

6. Mention two important things that the Tawraah contained (4 points):

| |
|---|
| 1 |
| 2 |

7. Mention six things that the Tawraah and Injeel said about the *sahaabah* (رضي الله عنهم) (12 points):

| |
|---|
| 1 |
| 2 |
| 3 |
| 4 |
| 5 |
| 6 |

8. Mention at least three things that were in Ibraaheem's (عليه السلام) message: (6 points):

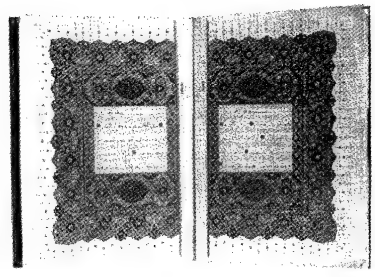
| |
|---|
| 1 |
| 2 |
| 3 |
| |
| |

9. Mention four important things that the Injeel contained (8 points):

| |
|---|
| 1 |
| 2 |
| 3 |
| 4 |

# CHAPTER 4

# THE LAST BOOK



The Last Book from Allaah (ﷻ) is that which He revealed to His Last Messenger Muhammad (ﷺ). It is most commonly known as the Qur'aan — even though it has several other names. It is the Book of complete guidance. It has all of the wisdom contained in the previous books — and more. It is the book that Allaah (ﷻ) promised to protect from changes and harm. No human being or *jinn* can write a book like it.

## Names of the Last Book

Allaah's last book has different names. In this section, we learn the most common of these names.

### THE QUR'AAN

The first and most common name for the Last Book is "the Qur'aan". Allaah (ﷻ) used this name in many places of His Book. For example, He says:

﴿ق ۚ وَٱلْقُرْءَانِ ٱلْمَجِيدِ ۝﴾ ق ١

**«*Qaaf* [1]. By the Glorious Qur'aan.»** [2]

And Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿إِنَّ هَٰذَا ٱلْقُرْءَانَ يَهْدِي لِلَّتِي هِيَ أَقْوَمُ.﴾ الإسراء ٩

**«This Qur'aan surely guides to all that is better.»** [3]

In the original Arabic language, the words *"qiraa'ah"* and *"qur'aan"* both mean "reading" or "recitation". Allaah's last Book is called "the Qur'aan" because it is read or recited. But the word "Qur'aan" is now only used for Allaah's Last Book, and we may not use it to describe other books or other reading material.

### THE KITAAB (BOOK)

Because the Qur'aan is written as a book, it is sometimes called al-Kitaab, which means, "the Book". Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿الم ۝ ذَٰلِكَ ٱلْكِتَٰبُ لَا رَيْبَ فِيهِ، هُدًى لِّلْمُتَّقِينَ ۝﴾ البقرة ١-٢

---

1 Allaah (ﷻ) starts twenty-nine of the *soorah*s of the Qur'aan with separate Arabic letters like these. Only Allaah knows the reason and meaning of these letters in the beginning of the *soorah*s.

2 *Soorat Qaaf* 50:1.

3 *Soorat al-Israa'* 17:9.

**«*Alif, laam, meem*. This is the (true) Book; there is no doubt about it. It is a guidance for the pious (the good people).»** [1]

And Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿حم ۞ وَٱلْكِتَٰبِ ٱلْمُبِينِ ۞﴾ الدخان ١-٢

**«*Haa, meem*. By the clear Book.»** [2]

### THE FURQAAN (CRITERION)

The Qur'aan is also called the "Furqaan" or "Criterion". A "criterion" is something that separates between truth and falsehood, and this is what the Qur'aan does. Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿تَبَارَكَ ٱلَّذِي نَزَّلَ ٱلْفُرْقَانَ عَلَىٰ عَبْدِهِۦ﴾ الفرقان ١

**«Blessed is He Who sent down al-Furqaan upon His servant.»** [3]

### THE THIKR (REMINDER)

The Qur'aan is the "Thikr", which means "Message" or "Reminder". It is a Message from Allaah (ﷻ) to his creation, and it reminds them of what they are

1 *Soorat al-Baqarah* 2:1-2.
2 *Soorat ad-Dukhaan* 44:1-2.
3 *Soorat al-Furqaan* 25:1.

supposed to do in this life. Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿إِنَّا نَحْنُ نَزَّلْنَا ٱلذِّكْرَ، وَإِنَّا لَهُۥ لَحَـٰفِظُونَ۝﴾ الحجر ٩

**«Surely, it is We who have sent down the Thikr; and surely, it is We who will gaurd it.»** [1]

We learned earlier that the "Thikr" could also mean the big Book in the heavens that has all other books written in it. The "Thikr" in the heavens is the reminder that contains all of the reminders that Allaah sent down. The "Thikr" on Earth is the Last Reminder from Allaah to the people.

## Qualities of the Last Book

Allaah (ﷻ) describes the Qur'aan with many excellent descriptions. We saw above that it is a glorious and clear book. Allaah describes it with many other wonderful qualities, such as that it is a noble and wise book. In what follows we look at some other qualities of the Qur'aan.

### It Is Cure and Mercy

The Qur'aan is a book of cure and mercy. It cures the diseases of the soul. It even cures some of the diseases

1 *Soorat al-Hijr* 15:9.

of the body. It is from Allaah who created us and knows what is best for our souls and bodies.

It is also a mercy from Allaah to the believers, because it helps them and protects them in different ways. Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿وَنُنَزِّلُ مِنَ ٱلْقُرْءَانِ مَا هُوَ شِفَآءٌ وَرَحْمَةٌ لِّلْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَلَا يَزِيدُ ٱلظَّٰلِمِينَ إِلَّا خَسَارًا ۝﴾ الإسراء ٨٢

**«We send down of the Qur'aan that which is cure and mercy for the believers. But it does not increase the wrongdoers except in loss.»** [1]

Thus the Qur'aan is has great benefits for the believers. But it does not help the wrongdoers and *kuffaar*. Rather, it adds to their loss, because they have a great book but are not willing to benefit from it.

### It Gives Admonishment and Guidance

The Qur'aan is a book of guidance and admonishment. Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿يَٰٓأَيُّهَا ٱلنَّاسُ قَدْ جَآءَتْكُم مَّوْعِظَةٌ مِّن رَّبِّكُمْ وَشِفَآءٌ لِّمَا فِي ٱلصُّدُورِ وَهُدًى وَرَحْمَةٌ لِّلْمُؤْمِنِينَ ۝﴾ يونس ٥٧

1 *Soorat al-Israa'* 17:82.

> **«O people, there has come to you an admonishment from your Lord, and a cure for what is in the breasts, and guidance and mercy for the believers.»** [1]

This *aayah* mentions that the Qur'aan brings cure and mercy. It also tells us that the Qur'aan brings admonishment and guidance to the believers.

In the next section, we will learn some more about the guidance of the Qur'aan.

#### IT WARNS AND GIVES GOOD NEWS

The Qur'aan gives good news to the believers. It gives news of victory and success, and news of a wonderful life in *Jannah*. It also warns the people from Allaah's anger, punishment, and Hell. Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿بَشِيرًا وَنَذِيرًا، فَأَعْرَضَ أَكْثَرُهُمْ فَهُمْ لاَ يَسْمَعُونَ ۝﴾ فصلت ٤

> **«(The Qur'aan is revealed) as a giver of good news and a warner; but most of the people turn away so they do not hear.»** [2]

#### IT IS A PROOF AND A LIGHT

The Qur'aan contains strong proofs that show us why the wrong is so bad and why the right is so good. It is

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1 *Soorat Yoonus* 10:57.
2 *Soorat Fussilat* 41:4.

a clear light that helps us see our way in the darkness of this life. Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿يَٰٓأَيُّهَا ٱلنَّاسُ قَدْ جَآءَكُم بُرْهَٰنٌ مِّن رَّبِّكُمْ، وَأَنزَلْنَآ إِلَيْكُمْ نُورًا مُّبِينًا ۝﴾ النساء ١٧٤

**«O people, there has come to you a strong proof from your Lord, and we have sent down to you a clear light.»** [1]

### It Is in Arabic

The Qur'aan was revealed in the Arabic language. The Arabic language is a powerful language that allows one to say things in many different ways. It is a language of poetry and nice speech. So Allaah chose the best language for His best Book. Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿كِتَٰبٌ فُصِّلَتْ ءَايَٰتُهُۥ قُرْءَانًا عَرَبِيًّا لِّقَوْمٍ يَعْلَمُونَ ۝﴾ فصلت ٣

**«It (the Qur'aan) is a book whose *aayaat* have been well explained — a Qur'aan in Arabic for people who know.»** [2]

### It Is Easy to Understand and Remember

Allaah (ﷻ) made the Qur'aan easy to understand, and

1 *Soorat an-Nisaa'* 4:174.
2 *Soorat Fussilat* 41:3.

made it possible for the Muslims to memorize it. He (ﷻ) says:

﴿وَلَقَدْ يَسَّرْنَا ٱلْقُرْءَانَ لِلذِّكْرِ فَهَلْ مِن مُّدَّكِرٍ﴾ القمر ١٧

**«We have surely made the Qur'aan easy to understand and remember; so is there any who will remember (the advice)?»** [1]

We see now that there are countless people on Earth who know and memorize the Qur'aan. They are far more than those who memorize any other book.

### It Is The Best Book

The Qur'aan contains the best of what is in Allaah's (ﷻ) earlier books. It agrees with the earlier books and calls to believing in them. It also has new and better things that were not in the books that came before it. Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿ وَأَنزَلْنَآ إِلَيْكَ ٱلْكِتَـٰبَ بِالْحَقِّ مُصَدِّقًا لِّمَا بَيْنَ يَدَيْهِ مِنَ ٱلْكِتَـٰبِ وَمُهَيْمِنًا عَلَيْهِ.﴾ المائدة ٤٨

**«And we have sent down to you the Book in truth, agreeing with the scripture that came before it and superceding over it.»** [2]

1 *Soorat al-Qamar* 54:17.
2 *Soorat al-Maa'idah* 5:48.

"Superceding" means that the Qur'aan is better and more complete than any previous book. So it replaces all other scriptures.

## Book of Guidance

### It Guides the Believers

We saw earlier that the glorious Qur'aan is a book of guidance. It invites us to think about Allaah's (ﷻ) creation and power. It tells us the difference between *halaal* (allowed) and *haraam* (prohibited) matters. It invites us to do good and avoid evil. So, it calls to the best of all things. Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿إِنَّ هَٰذَا ٱلْقُرْءَانَ يَهْدِي لِلَّتِي هِيَ أَقْوَمُ وَيُبَشِّرُ ٱلْمُؤْمِنِينَ.﴾

الإسراء ٩

> **«This Qur'aan surely guides to all that is better and gives glad news to the believers.»** [1]

### It Does Not Guide the Nonbelievers

The guidance of the Qur'aan only benefits the believers. As for the nonbelievers, they are blinded from seeing its beauty and guidance. Allaah (ﷻ) says:

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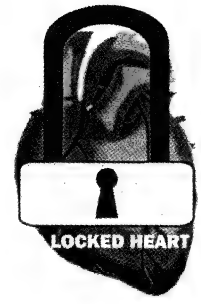
1 *Soorat al-Israa'* 17:9.

﴿قُلْ: "هُوَ لِلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُواْ هُدًى وَشِفَآءٌ، وَٱلَّذِينَ لاَ يُؤْمِنُونَ فِي ءَاذَانِهِمْ وَقْرٌ وَهُوَ عَلَيْهِمْ عَمًى."﴾ فصّلت ٤٤

**«Say (O Muhammad), "It (the Qur'aan) is for the believers guidance and cure. As for those who do not believe, there is deafness in their ears, and it is blindness upon them."»** [1]

It is as though the hearts of the nonbelievers are locked up, so they are not able to see the guidance of the Qur'aan.




Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿أَفَلاَ يَتَدَبَّرُونَ ٱلْقُرْءَانَ؟ أَمْ عَلَىٰ قُلُوبٍ أَقْفَالُهَآ؟ ۝﴾ محمد ٢٤

**«Should they not try to understand the Qur'aan, or are there locks on their hearts?»** [2]

1 *Soorat Fussilat* 41:44.
2 *Soorat Muhammad* 47:24.

### TYPES OF GUIDANCE

The guidance of the Qur'aan is of three different types:

1 The Qur'aan guides to the correct beliefs that we must have, such as the belief in Allaah, His angels, His books, His messengers, and the Last Day.

2. The Qur'aan guides to the correct ways of worshiping Allaah (ﷻ). It teaches us what actions please Him so that we would do them, and what actions anger Him so that we would not do them. For example, it commands us to pray and fast, and it tells us not to gamble or drink alcohol.

3. The Qur'aan guides to good manners. It teaches us how to purify our souls. It also teaches us how to have a good relationship with the other people and how to have a strong brotherhood with the believers. It guides us to truthfulness, patience, mercy, kindness to our parents, and so on.

## The Qur'aan Is a Miracle

The Qur'aan is a great miracle. It is Allaah's Book. Humans cannot come up with any book like it or even close to it.

### ALLAAH'S WORDS

The Qur'aan is the speech of Allaah (ﷻ), the One Who created everything. His speech and words are not like those of His creation. His words are much better and more supreme. That is because nothing is like Him. Allaah (ﷻ) says about Himself:

﴿لَيْسَ كَمِثْلِهِ شَيْءٌ.﴾ الشورى ١١

**«Nothing is like Him.»** [1]

No one is like Allaah. And nothing is like His Book. His book is so great — but most people are blinded from seeing its true beauty and power. If they could see the truth, they would know that even a mountain would break down to pieces from the power of the Qur'aan.

Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿لَوْ أَنزَلْنَا هَٰذَا ٱلْقُرْءَانَ عَلَىٰ جَبَلٍ لَّرَأَيْتَهُۥ خَٰشِعًا مُّتَصَدِّعًا مِّنْ خَشْيَةِ ٱللَّهِ﴾ الحشر ٢١

**«Had we sent down this Qur'aan upon a mountain, you would surely have seen it humble and cracking from fearing Allaah.»** [2]

1 *Soorat ash-Shooraa* 42:11.
2 *Soorat al-Hashr* 59:21.

### THE ETERNAL MIRACLE

Because of the power and greatness of the Qur'aan, no one can write a book similar to it.

Allaah (ﷻ) challenged the people at the time of the Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) by saying:

﴿قُل: "لَّئِنِ ٱجْتَمَعَتِ ٱلإِنسُ وَٱلْجِنُّ عَلَىٰٓ أَن يَأْتُواْ
بِمِثْلِ هَٰذَا ٱلْقُرْءَانِ لاَ يَأْتُونَ بِمِثْلِهِۦ، وَلَوْ كَانَ
بَعْضُهُمْ لِبَعْضٍ ظَهِيرًا." ۝﴾ الإسراء ٨٨

**«Say (O Muhammad), "If all human**

**beings and *jinn* gathered in order to make a book similar to this Qur'aan, they could never make one like it, even if they were all helping each other."»** [1]

The people failed to make anything like the Qur'aan. So Allaah (ﷻ) challenged them to make only one *soorah* (or chapter) like it. They could not do that either.

﴿وَإِن كُنتُمْ فِي رَيْبٍ مِّمَّا نَزَّلْنَا عَلَىٰ عَبْدِنَا فَأْتُوا بِسُورَةٍ مِّن مِّثْلِهِ وَادْعُوا شُهَدَاءَكُم مِّن دُونِ اللَّهِ إِن كُنتُمْ صَادِقِينَ ۝﴾ البقرة ٢٣

**«And if you are in doubt concerning that which We have sent down to Our servant (Muhammad), then make one *soorah* like it, and call upon your helpers besides Allaah, if you were truthful.»** [2]

The Qur'aan was revealed in the language of the Arabs. The Arabs were very good in their language. Among them were great poets and speakers. Many of them tried hard to match the Qur'aan. However, by their own judgment, they all failed to match even a single *soorah*!

1 *Soorat al-Israa'* 17:88.
2 *Soorat al-Baqarah* 2:24.

### THE GREATEST MIRACLE

The Qur'aan will always be a miracle that no one can imitate. And the Qur'aanic miracle will always bring more believers into Islaam than any other miracle.

Aboo Hurayrah (ﷺ) reported that the Prophet (ﷺ) said:

«ما مِنْ نَبِيٍ مِنَ الأَنْبياءِ إلا قَدْ أُعْطِيَ مِنَ الآياتِ ما مِثْلُهُ آمَنَ عَلَيْهِ البَشَرُ؛ وَإِنَّما كانَ الَّذي أُوتِيتُ وَحْياً أَوْحاهُ اللهُ إليَّ؛ فَأَرْجو أَنْ أَكُونَ أَكْثَرَهُمْ تابِعاً يَوْمَ القِيامَةِ.»

**‹Every single prophet was given miracles that make the people believe in him. And I was only given a revelation from Allaah, so I hope to have the most followers on the Day of Resurrection.›** [1]

1 This *hadeeth* is recorded by al-Bukhaaree (4981, 7274), Muslim (152), and others.

## Questions and Exercises

1. In the following table, check all true statements (11 points):

| | Statement | ✓ |
|---|---|---|
| a | The Qur'aan guides the believers. | |
| b | The Qur'aan guides the nonbelievers. | |
| c | A few people succeeded in writing *soorah*s similar to those of the Qur'aan. | |
| d | The original meaning of the word "Qur'aan" is "sacred". | |
| e | Allaah promised to protect the Qur'aan from changes. | |
| f | The Qur'aan is a miracle to the creation. | |
| g | All of the Qur'aan is Allaah's words. | |
| h | The power of the Qur'aan can break down everything except mountains. | |
| i | The Qur'aan guides people in their beliefs, acts of worship, and dealings with each other. | |
| j | The Qur'an should be changed and expanded to make it more complete and useful. | |
| k | All prophets had miracles. | |

2. Check all true names of the Qur'aan (6 points):

| Name | ✓ |
|---|---|
| The Hikmah (Wisdom) | |
| The Thikr (Reminder) | |
| The Furqaan (Criterion) | |

| Name | ✓ |
|---|---|
| The Haqq (Truth) | |
| The Kitaab (Book) | |
| The Qudus (Holy) | |

3. List at least 10 qualities of the Qur'aan mentioned in this chapter (10 points):

| # | Quality |
|---|---|
| 1 | |
| 3 | |
| 5 | |
| 7 | |
| 9 | |
| | |

| # | Quality |
|---|---|
| 2 | |
| 4 | |
| 6 | |
| 8 | |
| 10 | |
| | |

4. Check the name of the prophet who will have the most followers on Resurrection Day (2 points):

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Ibraaheem | | Moosaa | |
| 'Eesaa | | Muhammad | |

5. Check the number of specialized experts needed to write a book similar to the Qur'aan (2 points):

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| All humans and *jinn*s | | Ten | |
| One thousand | | None of the above | |

# CHAPTER 5

# REVELATION & RECORDING OF THE QUR'AAN

In this chapter, we learn how the Qur'aan reached us. In other words, how it was revealed by Allaah (ﷻ) to His Messenger Muhammad (ﷺ), and how the Muslims after the Prophet (ﷺ) learnt and recorded it.

## Revelation of the Qur'aan

### SENDING THE QUR'AAN DOWN TO THE LOWEST HEAVEN

Allaah (ﷻ) sent down the Qur'aan to the lowest heaven in the month of *Ramadhaan*. Allaah says:

﴿شَهْرُ رَمَضَانَ ٱلَّذِي أُنزِلَ فِيهِ ٱلْقُرْءَانُ هُدًى لِّلنَّاسِ وَبَيِّنَٰتٍ مِّنَ ٱلْهُدَىٰ وَٱلْفُرْقَانِ﴾ البقرة ١٨٥

**«The month of *Ramadhaan* in which the Qur'aan was sent down – a guidance for people, and clear proofs for guidance and criterion.»** [1]

1 *Soorat al-Baqarah* 2:185.

In particular, the Qur'aan was sent down on a most blessed night of *Ramadhaan*. Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿إِنَّآ أَنزَلْنَـٰهُ فِي لَيْلَةٍ مُّبَارَكَةٍ، إِنَّا كُنَّا مُنذِرِينَ ۝
فِيهَا يُفْرَقُ كُلُّ أَمْرٍ حَكِيمٍ ۝ أَمْرًا مِّنْ عِندِنَآ،
إِنَّا كُنَّا مُرْسِلِينَ ۝﴾ الدخان ٣-٥

**«We have surely sent this (the *Qur'aan*) down in a blessed night. Surely, We always warn (the people). During that night, every wise command is made by Us (by Allaah). Surely, We always send (the messengers for guidance).»** [1]

This blessed night is called *Laylat ul-Qadr*, or the Night of Decree. Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿إِنَّآ أَنزَلْنَـٰهُ فِي لَيْلَةِ ٱلْقَدْرِ ۝ وَمَآ أَدْرَىٰكَ مَا لَيْلَةُ ٱلْقَدْرِ ۝
لَيْلَةُ ٱلْقَدْرِ خَيْرٌ مِّنْ أَلْفِ شَهْرٍ ۝﴾ القدر ١-٣

**«Verily! We have sent it down during the Night of Decree. And what will make you know what is the Night of Decree? The Night of Decree is better than a thousand months.»** [2]

1 *Soorat ad-Dukhaan* 44:3-5.
2 *Soorat al-Qadr* 97:1-3.

Yes, this blessed night is better than a thousand months. It is the night in which the Lord of the creation sent down His noble Book, so that it would be taken down after that to His noble Messenger Muhammad (ﷺ).

### SENDING JIBREEL WITH THE QUR'AAN DOWN TO THE PROPHET

The Qur'aan was taken down from the lowest heaven to the Prophet (ﷺ) by the mighty angel Jibreel (عليه السلام). Allaah (تعالى) says:

﴿وَإِنَّهُۥ لَتَنزِيلُ رَبِّ ٱلْعَٰلَمِينَ ۝ نَزَلَ بِهِ ٱلرُّوحُ ٱلْأَمِينُ ۝ عَلَىٰ قَلْبِكَ لِتَكُونَ مِنَ ٱلْمُنذِرِينَ ۝﴾ الشعراء ١٩٢-١٩٤

**«And truly, this (the Qur'aan) is sent down (gradually) from the Lord of the creation. The trustworthy Spirit (Jibreel) brought it down upon your heart (O Muhammad), so that you would be of those who warn (the people).»** [1]

### THE QUR'AAN WAS REVEALED GRADUALLY

The Qur'aan was not sent down to the Prophet (ﷺ) in one big chunk. It was sent down gradually over a long time. Allaah (تعالى) says:

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1 *Soorat ash-Shu'araa'* 26:192-194.

﴿وَقُرْءَانًا فَرَقْنَٰهُ لِتَقْرَأَهُۥ عَلَى ٱلنَّاسِ عَلَىٰ مُكْثٍ، وَنَزَّلْنَٰهُ تَنزِيلًا ۝﴾ الإسراء ١٠٦

**«And it is a Qur'aan which We have separated (in time) so that you might recite it to the people over a long period. And we have sent it down gradually.»** [1]

Over twenty-three years, Jibreel continued to visit the Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ), bringing with him *aayaat* after *aayaat* of the Qur'aan.

Why was the Qur'aan revealed to the Prophet (ﷺ) in small portions over twenty-three years? Among the reasons for this are the following:

1. HONORING THE PROPHET (ﷺ) AND STRENGTHENING HIS HEART. When the Prophet (ﷺ) regularly received revelation, he felt that his Lord and Master, Allaah (ﷻ), was always with him and did not forsake him. He felt that Allaah was always ready to help and protect him. Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿وَقَالَ ٱلَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا۟: "لَوْلَا نُزِّلَ عَلَيْهِ ٱلْقُرْءَانُ جُمْلَةً وَٰحِدَةً،" كَذَٰلِكَ لِنُثَبِّتَ بِهِۦ فُؤَادَكَ؛ وَرَتَّلْنَٰهُ تَرْتِيلًا ۝﴾ الفرقان ٣٢

**«Those who disbelieve said, "Why was the Qur'aan not revealed to him as one**

1 *Soorat al-Israa'* 17:106.

**piece?" That is because We want to strengthen your heart with it. And We have revealed it gradually.»** [1]

2. GIVING THE PEOPLE NEW INSTRUCTIONS AS THE OCCASIONS CAME UP. The teachings of *Islaam* came to the people gradually, changing them from their old life of ignorance and disbelief to the new life of purity and goodness. This did not happen suddenly, but was done slowly and gradually. The Qur'aan was revealed gradually to help the people deal with those changes in their lives.

3. ANSWERING QUESTIONS THAT WERE POSED TO THE PROPHET (ﷺ). The Muslims, Jews and other people asked the Prophet (ﷺ) questions about matters that he did not know. He had to wait for the revelation to bring him the answers. We often see in the Qur'aan things like:

﴿يَسْئَلُونَكَ عَنْ ... قُلْ ...﴾

**«They ask you about (such-and-such), say (such-and-such) ...»**

4. MAKING IT EASIER FOR THE COMPANIONS TO LEARN AND MEMORIZE THE QUR'AAN BIT AFTER BIT. It would have been extremely difficult for the *sahaabah* to memorize the Qur'aan if it were revealed all at once.

---

1 *Soorat al-Furqaan* 25:32.

Because of the gradual revelation, the *sahaabah* finished understanding and memorizing one part of the Qur'aan before the next part was revealed. This way, the Qur'aan was very well preserved in the hearts of the *sahaabah*.

### THE FIRST AND LAST *AAYAAT* THAT WERE REVEALED

The first *aayaat* that were revealed to the Prophet (ﷺ), at the age of forty, are the following:

﴿ٱقْرَأْ بِٱسْمِ رَبِّكَ ٱلَّذِي خَلَقَ ۝ خَلَقَ ٱلْإِنسَـٰنَ مِنْ عَلَقٍ ۝ ٱقْرَأْ وَرَبُّكَ ٱلْأَكْرَمُ ۝ ٱلَّذِي عَلَّمَ بِٱلْقَلَمِ ۝ عَلَّمَ ٱلْإِنسَـٰنَ مَا لَمْ يَعْلَمْ ۝﴾ العلق ١-٥

**«Read, with the Name of your Lord Who created — He created the human being from a sticky thing (in the mother's womb). Read; and your Lord is the most Generous. He is the One who taught by the pen; He taught the human being that which he did not know.»** [1]

There are different opinions as to the last *aayah* that was revealed [2]. Most probably, the last *aayah* that was revealed to the Prophet (ﷺ), a little before his death,

1 *Soorat al-'Alaq* 96:1-5.

2 Review *Fath ul-Baaree* (*Tafseer* of *Soorat al-Baqarah*) for a discussion of this.

when he was sixty-three years old, was the following:

﴿وَٱتَّقُواْ يَوْمًا تُرْجَعُونَ فِيهِ إِلَى ٱللَّهِ ثُمَّ تُوَفَّىٰ كُلُّ نَفْسٍ مَّا كَسَبَتْ وَهُمْ لَا يُظْلَمُونَ ۝﴾ البقرة ٢٨١

**«And fear a Day when you will be returned to Allaah. Every soul will then be awarded (good or bad) according to what it earned (in the first life), and they will not be treated unfairly.»** [1]

## Preservation of the Qur'aan

### ALLAAH'S PROMISE

Allaah (ﷻ) promised to protect the Qur'aan from all harm and changes. He (ﷻ) said:

﴿إِنَّا نَحْنُ نَزَّلْنَا ٱلذِّكْرَ، وَإِنَّا لَهُۥ لَحَٰفِظُونَ ۝﴾ الحجر ٩

**«Surely, it is We who have sent down the Thikr; and surely, it is We who will gaurd it.»** [2]

And Allaah (ﷻ) tells us that no falsehood can come to the Qur'aan from any direction. He says:

---

1 *Soorat al-Baqarah* 2:281.
2 *Soorat al-Hijr* 15:9.

﴿وَإِنَّهُۥ لَكِتَٰبٌ عَزِيزٌ ۝ لَّا يَأْتِيهِ ٱلْبَٰطِلُ مِنۢ بَيْنِ يَدَيْهِ وَلَا مِنْ خَلْفِهِۦ ۖ تَنزِيلٌ مِّنْ حَكِيمٍ حَمِيدٍ ۝﴾ فصلت ٤١-٤٢

**«And it surely is a noble Book. Falsehood cannot come to it from before it or behind it. It is sent down from a Wise and Praiseworthy One.»** [1]

Allaah (ﷻ) fulfilled his promise and preserved the Qur'aan. The Qur'aan is now exactly the same as it was revealed to the Prophet (ﷺ).

### MEMORIZING THE QUR'AAN

Most of the early Arabs did not know how to read or write. But they were very good in memorizing things. They would easily memorize hundreds of lines of poetry. When the Qur'aan was revealed, it was easy for them to quickly memorize it.

A large number of the *sahaabah* memorized the Qur'aan during the lifetime of the Prophet (ﷺ). Among them were four that the Prophet (ﷺ) especially mentioned:

1. 'Abdullaah Bin Mas'ood (رضي الله عنه)
2. Ubayy Bin Ka'b (رضي الله عنه)
3. Mu'aath Bin Jabal
4. Saalim, the servant of Aboo Huthayfah (رضي الله عنه)

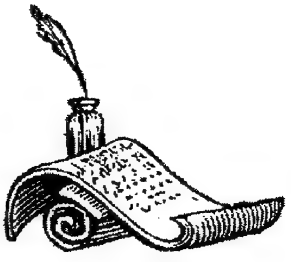
1 *Soorat Fussilat* 41:41-42.

'Abdullaah Bin 'Amr, 'Abdullaah Bin 'Umar, and 'Abdullaah Bin Mas'ood (ﷺ) all said that the Prophet (ﷺ) said:

«خُذوا القُرْآنَ مِنْ أَرْبَعَةٍ: مِنَ ٱبْنِ مَسْعودٍ، وَأُبَيٍّ بْنِ كَعْبٍ، وَمُعاذِ بْنِ جَبَلٍ، وَسالِمٍ مَوْلَى أَبي حُذَيْفَةَ.»

**‹Learn the Qur'aan from four men: 'Abdullaah Bin Mas'ood, Ubayy Bin Ka'b, Mu'aath Bin Jabal, and Saalim, Aboo Huthayfah's servant.›** [1]

### WRITING THE QUR'AAN



The Prophet (ﷺ) ordered some of his companions to write the revelation. Every time some *aayaat* were revealed, he told them to write them. Among the companions that the Prophet (ﷺ) appointed to write the *wahy* were:

1. 'Alee Bin Abee Taalib (رضي الله عنه)
2. Mu'aawiyah Bin Abee Sufyaan (رضي الله عنهما)
3. Ubayy Bin Ka'b (رضي الله عنه)
4. Zayd Bin Thaabit (رضي الله عنه)

1 This *hadeeth* is recorded by al-Bukhaaree (3758, 3806, 3808, 4999), Muslim (2462), and others.

When an *aayah* was revealed, the Prophet (ﷺ) would tell his writers (or scribes) in which *soorah* and which place of the *soorah* to write it.

These and other companions wrote the Qur'aan on various things that they could find. There was no paper at that time. So they wrote the Qur'aan on leather, wide shoulder bones of animals, thin and flat pieces of wood and bark, and so on.

During the Prophet's (ﷺ) lifetime, the *sahaabah* could not yet collect all of the Qur'aan in one book, because more and more of it was still being revealed.

### COLLECTING THE QUR'AAN IN ONE VOLUME

The revelation stopped with the death of the Prophet (ﷺ). It was then possible for the *sahaabah* to collect it in one book. But this was not done right away.

Aboo Bakr as-Siddeeq (رضي الله عنه) was the *khaleefah* (ruler) of the Muslims after the Prophet (ﷺ). During his time, the Muslims fought a great battle called "al-Yamaamah" against the nonbelievers. The Muslims won this battle, but many of the Muslims who had memorized the Qur'aan were killed.

Aboo Bakr, 'Umar, and other great *sahaabah* (رضي الله عنهم) were afraid that when most of those who memorized the Qur'aan died, some parts of the Qur'aan would be lost. So Aboo Bakr commanded Zayd Bin Thaabit to collect the Qur'aan in one volume.

Zayd was very careful in collecting the Qur'aan. He

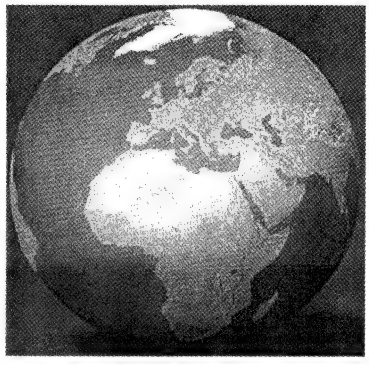
himself had memorized and written it during the Prophet's (ﷺ) time. Yet, he looked for all what was written by other trusted *sahaabah* during the Prophet's (ﷺ) time. He wanted to make sure that no mistakes were made by himself or anyone else.

After Zayd finished his work, Aboo Bakr and the other *sahaabah* reviewed the collected Qur'aan and agreed that it was correct and complete.

So, for the first time, the Qur'aan was collected in one volume or *mus-haf*. "*Mus-haf*" means a collection of "*suhuf*" or sheets.

After that, Aboo Bakr (رضي الله عنه) sent the completed *Mus-haf* to Hafsah (رضي الله عنها), the daughter of 'Umar (رضي الله عنه) and the wife of the Prophet (ﷺ). Hafsah, the Mother of the Believers, kept this "master copy" of the Qur'aan with her. If anyone wanted to write another copy of the Qur'aan, he had to check it against the "master copy" to make sure that it had no mistakes.

### THE *MUS-HAF* OF 'UTHMAAN



The second *khaleefah* was 'Umar (رضي الله عنه), and the third was 'Uthmaan (رضي الله عنه). During 'Umar's and 'Uthmaan's rule, the Muslims conquered many nations, and large numbers of people from far lands (like Egypt, Persia, and India) became Muslim.

The new Muslims learned the Qur'aan from the *sahaabah* and their students. But many of them could

not recite it the same way they learned it. They started changing it little by little. They even started writing wrong copies of the Qur'aan.

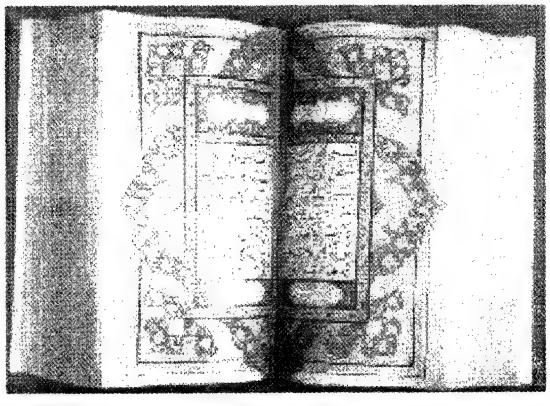
'Uthmaan heard of this and was afraid that if it continued, the Muslims who lived in far away lands would soon be reading something completely different from the true Qur'aan.

'Uthmaan (ﷺ) commanded four of the *sahaabah* to write the Qur'aan in new *mus-hafs*. Those *sahaabah* were:

1. Zayd Bin Thaabit (ﷺ).
2. 'Abdullaah Bin az-Zubayr (ﷺ).
3. Sa'eed Bin al-'Aas (ﷺ).
4. 'Abd ur-Rahmaan Bin al-Haarith Bin Hishaam (ﷺ).

These four men borrowed the master *Mus-haf* from Hafsah, wrote four or five copies of it, and gave it back to her.

The *soorahs* in the new *mus-hafs* were arranged in the right order as from the time of the Prophet (ﷺ). Also, the new *mus-hafs* were written in such a way that no one would be able to make mistakes in



reading them.

The other *sahaabah* carefully reviewed the new *mus-hafs*. All of them agreed that they were complete and correct. From that time on, they were accepted by the whole Muslim *Ummah* as being exact and correct copies of the Qur'aan.

'Uthmaan (ﷺ) sent a new *mus-haf* to each of his commanders in the distant areas. He ordered the commanders to collect all other *mus-hafs* from the people and burn them because they contained mistakes. After that, everyone could only copy the Qur'aan from the new *mus-hafs*.

Until today, all *mus-hafs* are called the *mus-hafs* of 'Uthmaan. This is because they all are copies of the master copies that were made during the rule of 'Uthmaan (ﷺ).

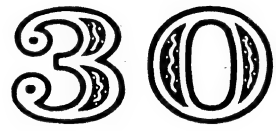
## Description of the *Mus-haf*

The *Mus-haf* (or Qur'aan-book) that we have today is the same as the one approved by 'Uthmaan and the other *sahaabah*. It only has additional marks and signs to help us read it more easily.

The *Mus-haf* has 114 *soorah*s (or chapters). It starts with *al-Faatihah* and ends with *an-Naas*. Except for *al-Faatihah*, all other *soorah*s in the beginning of the Qur'aan are long. The second one (*al-Baqarah*) is the longest. On the other hand, all *soorah*s at

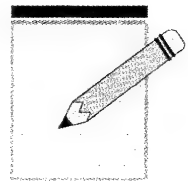
the end of the Qur'aan are short.

Each *soorah* is divided into short portions called *aayaat*. *Soorat al-Baqarah* (2) has 286 *aayaat*. *Soorat al-'Asr* (103), *soorat al-Kawthar* (108), and *soorat an-Nasr* (110) each has only three *aayaat*.




The *Mus-haf* was divided by the scholars into 30 parts (or *juz'*s) to make it easy to read a part every day. Each *juz'* is divided into two half-parts or *hizb*s. And each *hizb* is divided into four quarters.

## Questions and Exercises



1. In the following table, check all true statements (12 points):

| | Statement | ✓ |
|---|---|---|
| a | The Qur'aan was revealed to the Prophet (ﷺ) gradually. | |
| b | The Qur'aan was revealed in a blessed night. | |
| c | Only four of the *sahaabah* memorized the whole Qur'aan. | |
| d | The Prophet (ﷺ) usually told four of the *sahaabah* to write the Qur'aan. | |
| e | The *sahaabah* used paper and ball-point pens to write. | |
| f | Abu Bakr and 'Umar are the main writers of the Qur'aan. | |
| g | Zayd Bin Thaabit was the chief man in collecting the Qur'aan. | |
| h | The *Mus-haf* of 'Uthmaan was different from the true Qur'aan. | |
| i | 'Uthmaan made thousands of copies of the new *mus-haf*. | |

| | Statement | ✓ |
|---|---|---|
| j | The *mus-hafs* of today are exact copies of the *Mus-haf* of 'Uthmaan. | |
| k | *Mus-haf* means a Qur'aan book. | |
| l | All short *soorahs* are at the end of the Qur'aan. | |

2. The Qur'aan was all revealed to the Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) (check one only; 2 points):

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| During *Ramadhaan* | | In Makkah | |
| Over more than 20 years | | During *Hijrah* | |

3. The Qur'aan was all sent down to the lowest heaven on (check one only; 2 points):

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *'Eed ul-Fitr* | | *Laylat ul-Qadr* | |
| *'Eed ul-Adhaa* | | The day of *'Arafah* | |

4. The Qur'aan was delivered from Allaah (ﷻ) to the Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) by (check one only; 2 points):

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Dreams | | Various angels | |
| Jibreel | | Direct Inspiration | |

5. The Qur'aan was revealed to the Prophet (ﷺ) in small portions in order to (only check the correct answers; 7 points):

| Reason | ✓ |
|---|---|
| Honor the Prophet (ﷺ) | |
| Strengthen the heart of the Prophet (ﷺ) | |
| Give the Prophet (ﷺ) time to do other things | |
| Answer questions posed to the Prophet (ﷺ) | |
| Wait for an angel to bring it to the lowest heaven | |
| Provide instructions for new situations | |
| Make it easier for the Companions to memorize it. | |

6. The first portion revealed from the Qur'aan was (check one only; 2 points):

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *Soorat al-Muzzammil* (*aayah* 1 to 7) | | *Soorat al-Faatihah* | |
| *Soorat al-'Alaq* (*aayah* 1 to 5) | | | |

7. The last portion revealed from the Qur'aan was (check one only; 2 points):

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *Soorat an-Naas* | | *Soorat al-Baqarah* (*aayah* 281) | |
| *Soorat an-Nasr* | | *Soorat al-Maa'idah* (*aayah* 3) | |

8. Among the means for preserving the Qur'aan were the following (only check the correct answers; 5 points):

| | |
|---|---|
| Many of the Companions and other Muslims memorized the whole Qur'aan | |
| Some of the Companions and other Muslims wrote the whole Qur'aan | |
| Some of the nonbelievers tried to make up *aayaat* similar to the Qur'aan | |
| The *sahaabah* after the Prophet (ﷺ) compiled the Qur'aan in one volume | |
| The Qur'aan was recorded on tapes and disks | |

9. Fill the following with appropriate numbers (7 points):

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of *soorah*s of the Qur'aan | |
| Number of *juz'*s of the Qur'aan | |
| Number of *hizb*s of the Qur'aan | |
| Number of quarters in each *juz'* | |
| Number of *aayaat* of *Soorat al-Baqarah* | |
| Number of *aayaat* of the shortest *soorah* | |
| Number of *aayaat* of *Soorat al-Faatihah* | |

# CHAPTER 6

# RECITING & LEARNING THE QUR'AAN

People recite the Qur'aan more than any other book in the world. This is not surprising when we learn of the great rewards for reciting it.

## Rewards for Reciting the Qur'aan

### A Most Profitable Trade

Those who recite the Qur'aan and do other good deeds) have the most profitable business — one that never loses, and that has a permanent profit. Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿إِنَّ ٱلَّذِينَ يَتْلُونَ كِتَٰبَ ٱللَّهِ وَأَقَامُواْ ٱلصَّلَوٰةَ وَأَنفَقُواْ مِمَّا رَزَقْنَٰهُمْ سِرًّا وَعَلَانِيَةً يَرْجُونَ تِجَٰرَةً لَّن تَبُورَ ۝﴾ فاطر ٢٩

**«Surely, those who recite Allaah's Book, establish the prayer, and spend (charity) from what We gave them — both in secret and in public — can hope for a most**

**profitable bargain (in *Jannah*).»** [1]

### MULTIPLIED REWARDS

For every letter that we read of the Qur'aan, we get ten rewards! 'Abdullaah Bin Mas'ood (ﷺ) reported that the Prophet (ﷺ) said:

«اِقْرَؤوا القُرْآنَ، فَإِنَّكُمْ تُؤْجَرونَ عَلَيْهِ. أَما إني لا أَقولُ (ألم) حَرْفٌ، وَلٰكِنْ أَلِفٌ عَشْرٌ، وَلامٌ عَشْرٌ، وَميمٌ عَشْرٌ، فَتِلْكَ ثَلاثونَ.»

**‹Recite the Qur'aan, because you will then be rewarded for it. I surely do not count *"Alif, laam, meem"* as one letter; but *"Alif"* is ten (rewards), *"Laam"* is ten, and *"Meem"* is ten.›** [2]

'Abdullaah Bin Mas'ood (ﷺ) also reported that the Prophet (ﷺ) said:

«مَنْ قَرَأَ حَرْفاً مِنْ كِتابِ اللهِ فَلَهُ بِهِ حَسَنَةٌ، وَالحَسَنَةُ بِعَشْرِ أَمْثالِها. لا أَقولُ (ألم) حَرْفٌ، وَلٰكِنْ أَلِفٌ حَرْفٌ، وَلامٌ حَرْفٌ، وَميمٌ حَرْفٌ.»

---

1 *Soorat Faatir* 35:29.

2 This *hadeeth* is recorded by al-Khateeb al-Baghdaadee, Ibn Abee Shaybah, and others. It is declared to be authentic by al-Albaanee (*As-Saheehah* no. 660 & *Saheeh ul-Jaami'* no. 1164).

**‹A person who reads one letter from Allaah's Book gets one good deed for it, and a good deed is multiplied ten times. I do not count *"Alif, laam, meem"* as one letter; but *"Alif"* is one letter, *"Laam"* one letter, and *"Meem"* one letter.›** [1]

#### INTERCESSION ON THE LAST DAY

On the Day of Resurrection (when the people are raised from death), the Qur'aan will intercede for those who used to read it in this life. "Intercede" means that it will ask Allaah to forgive them.

Aboo Umaamah (ﷺ) said that the Prophet (ﷺ) said:

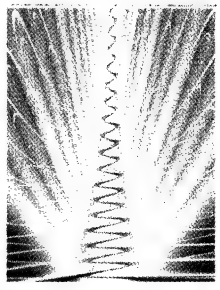
«اِقْرَؤوا القُرْآنَ، فَإنَّهُ يَأْتي يَوْمَ القِيامَةِ شَفِيعاً لِأَصْحابِهِ. اِقْرَؤوا الزَّهْراوَينِ: البَقَرَةَ وَآلَ عِمْرانَ، فَإنَّهُما يَأْتِيانِ يَوْمَ القِيامَةِ كَأَنَّهُما غَمامَتانِ، أَو كَأَنَّهُما فِرْقانِ مِنْ طَيْرٍ صَوافَّ، يُحاجَّانِ عَنْ أَصْحابِهِما. اِقْرَؤوا سورَةَ البَقَرَةِ، فَإنَّ أَخْذَها بَرَكَةٌ، وَتَرْكَها حَسْرَةٌ، وَلا تَسْتَطِيعُها البَطَلَةُ.»

**‹Recite the Qur'aan, because it will come on the Day of Resurrection to intercede for its friends. Recite the two glorious**

1 This *hadeeth* is recorded by at-Tirmithee and al-Haakim. It is declared to be authentic by al-Albaanee (*Hidaayat-ur-Ruwaah* no. 2079 & *Saheeh ul-Jaami'* no. 6469).

> ***soorahs, al-Baqarah* and *Aal 'Imraan*, because they will come on the Day of Resurrection like two clowds, or two flocks of birds flying with their wings spread, and they will be arguing for the sake of their friends. Recite *Soorat al-Baqarah*, because there is blessing in learning it, and leaving it brings regret, and magicians cannot face it.›** [1]

The "friends" of the Qur'aan are those who read it much in this life. Only they will be helped by the Qur'aan on the Last Day.



**HIGH LEVELS IN *JANNAH***

Those who read and memorize Qur'aan in this life will be in high levels (or places) in *Jannah*. The more that we read and learn of the Qur'aan in this life, the higher that our level will be in *Jannah — in shaa'a llaah.*

'Abdullaah Bin 'Amr (ﷺ) said that the Prophet (ﷺ) said:

«يُقالُ لِصاحِبِ القُرْآنِ: "اِقْرَأْ وَارْتَقِ، وَرَتِّلْ كَما كُنْتَ تُرَتِّلُ في الدُّنْيا، فَإِنَّ مَنْزِلَتَكَ عِنْدَ آخِرِ آيَةٍ كُنْتَ تَقْرَؤُها."»

**‹The person with Qur'aan (in memory)**

1 This *hadeeth* is recorded by Muslim (804) and Ahmad.

**will be told, "Read and rise, and recite as you did in the first life. Your final level will surely be where is the last *aayah* that you used to read.›** [1]

This is explained more in the following *hadeeth* by Aboo Sa'eed al-Khudree (ﷺ) that the Prophet (ﷺ) said:

«يُقالُ لِصاحِبِ القُرْآنِ إذا دَخَلَ الجَنَّةَ: "اِقْرَأْ وَارْتَقِ." فَيَقْرَأُ وَيَصْعَدُ لِكُلِّ آيَةٍ دَرَجَةً، حَتَّى يَقْرَأَ آخِرَ شَيْءٍ مَعَهُ.»

**‹The person with Qur'aan (in memory) will be told after entering *Jannah*, "Read and rise." So he will read and rise, one level for every *aayah*, until he finishes reading all what he knew.›** [2]

### Driving Satan Away

The devils like to be in graveyards, toilets, waste yards, and other places where

1 This *hadeeth* is recorded by Aboo Daawood, Ahmad, and others. It is verified to be authentic by al-Albaanee (*as-Saheehah* no. 2240 & *Saheeh ul-Jaami'* 8122).

2 This *hadeeth* is recorded by Ibn Maajah, Ahmad, and others. It is verified to be authentic by al-Albaanee (*as-Saheehah* no. 2240 & *Saheeh ul-Jaami'* 8121).

Allaah is not mentioned. The Prophet (ﷺ) tells us that we should not make our homes like graveyards. Rather, we should pray and read Qur'aan in them, and this would drive the devils away. This is especially true for *Soorat al-Baqarah* (2).

Aboo Hurayrah (رضي الله عنه) reported that the Prophet (ﷺ) said:

«لا تجْعَلوا بُيوتَكُمْ مَقابِرَ. إنَّ الشَّيْطانَ يَنفِرُ مِنَ البَيْتِ الَّذي يُقْرَؤُ فيهِ سُورَةُ البَقَرَةِ.»

**‹Do not make your homes like graveyards. Surely, Satan runs away from a house in which *soorat al-Baqarah* is read.›** [1]

#### COMPANY OF THE ANGELS

If it is difficult for a person to recite the Qur'aan, he should not give up and stop reading it. Rather, he should make more effort to read it, because he will get an additional reward just for making this effort.

Our Mother 'Aa'ishah (رضي الله عنها) said that the Prophet (ﷺ) said:

«الماهِرُ بالقُرْآنِ مَعَ السَّفَرَةِ الكِرامِ البَرَرَةِ. وَالذي يَقْرَأُ القُرْآنَ وَيُتَعْتِعُ فيهِ وَهُوَ عَلَيْهِ شاقٌّ لَهُ أَجْرانِ.»

1 This *hadeeth* is recorded by Muslim (780).

> **‹A person who is skillful (or good) in reading the Qur'aan is with the noble and good messengers (of the angels). And a person who stammers when he reads the Qur'aan and it is difficult for him gets a double reward.›** [1]

## Excellence of Learning and Teaching the Qur'aan

### The Best Occupation

The best thing that we could do is learn Allaah's Book or teach it. 'Uthmaan (ﷺ) reported that the Prophet (ﷺ) said:

«خَيْرُكُمْ مَنْ تَعَلَّمَ الْقُرْآنَ وَعَلَّمَهُ.»

> **‹The best among you is the one who learns the Qur'aan and teaches it.›** [2]

### Peace, Mercy, and High Praise

There are many great rewards for those who sit together to read and study the Qur'aan. Allaah sends down over them peace and

1 This *hadeeth* is recorded by al-Bukhaaree (4937) and Muslim (798).
2 This *hadeeth* is recorded by al-Bukhaaree (5027, 5028).

mercy; the angels would sit around them; and Allaah tell the angels in the heavens how pleased He is with them.

Aboo Hurayrah (ﷺ) said that the Prophet (ﷺ) said:

«ما اجْتَمَعَ قَوْمٌ في بَيْتٍ مِنْ بُيوتِ اللهِ، يَتْلُونَ كِتابَ اللهِ وَيَتَدارَسونَهُ بَيْنَهُمْ، إلا نَزَلَتْ عَلَيْهِمُ السَّكِينَةُ، وَغَشِيَتْهُمُ الرَّحْمَةُ، وَحَفَّتْهُمُ المَلائِكَةُ، وَذَكَرَهُمُ اللهُ فيمَنْ عِنْدَهُ.»

**‹Every time a group of people get together in one of Allaah's houses (or *masjid*s) to recite Allaah's Book and study it together, peace would come down over them, mercy would flow among them, the angels would surround them, and Allaah would tell about them to those (angels) who are close to Him.›** [1]

Al-Baraa' Bin 'Aazib (ﷺ) reported that once a man was reading *soorat al-Kahf*. Next to him was a horse tied with two ropes. A cloud appeared over the man and started coming closer and closer. The horse became restless and started jumping about. In the morning, that man came to the Prophet (ﷺ) and told him about what happened. The Prophet (ﷺ) said:

«تِلْكَ السَّكينَةُ تَنَزَّلَتْ بِالقُرْآنِ.»

1 This *hadeeth* is recorded by Muslim (2699) and others.

**‹That was the peace that came down because of (recitation of) the Qur'aan.›** [1]

The cloud consisted of angels who brought peace and serenity with them, but their presence made the horse nervous. This *hadeeth* is similar to the one that we mentioned in Part 2 of this series (Knowing the Angels) in regard to Usayd Bin Hadayr who was reading *soorat al-Baqarah.* [2]

## Sincerity in Reciting the Qur'aan

All of our acts of worship should be done with sincerity. This means that we should do them purely for the pleasure of Allaah, and not for the people.

This is true about reciting and studying the Qur'aan. We should only do this for the pleasure of Allaah, and not for showoff or other worldly gains.

Mu'aawiyah and 'Abd-ur-Rahmaan Bin Shibl (ﷺ) reported that the Prophet (ﷺ) said:

«اِقْرَؤوا القُرْآنَ وَاعْمَلوا بِهِ، وَلا تجْفوا عَنْهُ، وَلا تَغْلوا فيهِ، وَلا تَأْكُلوا بِهِ، وَلا تَسْتَكْثِروا بِهِ.»

**‹Recite the Qur'aan and follow it. Do not**

1 This *hadeeth* is recorded by al-Bukhaaree (3614, 4839, 5011) and Muslim (795).

2 This *hadeeth* is recorded by Muslim (796).

**turn away from it; do not go to extremes in regard to it, do not seek food with it, and do not seek worldly gains with it.›** [1]

This *hadeeth* also tells us that we should follow the Qur'aan and do as it tells us. We should not turn away from it or disobey it. We should try to understand it correctly as it was understood by the *sahaabah.*

If a person does not understand the Qur'aan, he would not be able to tell what is right from what is wrong. That would make him go to extremes and wrong ways in interpreting it. He would think that he is following the Qur'aan when he is not.

Also, 'Imraan Bin Husayn (ﷺ) reported that the Prophet (ﷺ) said:

«اِقْرَؤوا القُرْآنَ، وَسَلوا اللهَ بِهِ، قَبْلَ أنْ يَأْتِيَ قَوْمٌ يَقْرَؤونَ القُرْآنَ فَيَسْأَلونَ بِهِ النَّاسَ.»

**‹Recite the Qur'aan, and ask Allaah (for His favors) with it. In the future, there will be those who will recite the Qur'aan and ask people (for favors) with it.›** [2]

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1 This *hadeeth* is recorded by Ahmad and others. It is declared to be authentic by al-Albaanee (*as-Saheehah* no. 260 & *Saheeh ul-Jaami'* no. 1168).

2 This *hadeeth* is recorded by Ahmad and others. It is declared to be authentic by al-Albaanee (*as-Saheehah* nos. 257-259 & *Saheeh ul-Jaami'* no. 259).

A teacher or reciter of Qur'aan may not have any source of income, which would necessitate paying him for his teaching or recitation. Even so, it should be known to him and those who pay him that the pay is not for performing this act of worship, but is only a compensation for the time and effort that he should spend in order to excel in his work.

## Etiquettes for Reciting and Studying the Qur'aan

There are many *aadaab* (or etiquettes) in reciting the Qur'aan and studying it. In this section, we mention the most important ones.

### Seeking Allaah's Protection Against Satan

Before starting to recite Qur'aan, we should ask Allaah to protect us from Satan. Allaah (ﷻ) says:

﴿فَإِذَا قَرَأْتَ ٱلْقُرْءَانَ فَٱسْتَعِذْ بِٱللَّهِ مِنَ ٱلشَّيْطَٰنِ ٱلرَّجِيمِ ۝﴾ النحل ٩٨

**«When you recite Qur'aan, seek Allaah's protection from the outcast Satan.»** [1]

Satan is outcast (*rajeem*), which means that he is far removed from Allaah's mercy. This is so because he

1 *Soorat an-Nahl* 16:98.

disobeyed Allaah more than anyone else of His creation. So he deserved Allaah's anger and punishment.

Satan likes to turn our minds and hearts away from listening to Allaah's words and benefitting from them. This is why we seek Allaah's protection against him.

### Listening to the Recitation

When we hear someone reciting Qur'aan, we should become quiet and listen to him with attention.

﴿وَإِذَا قُرِئَ ٱلْقُرْءَانُ فَٱسْتَمِعُوا۟ لَهُۥ وَأَنصِتُوا۟ لَعَلَّكُمْ تُرْحَمُونَ ۝٢٠٤﴾ الأعراف ٢٠٤

**«When the Qur'aan is recited, listen to it and pay attention, so that you may receive mercy (from Allaah).»** [1]

When we hear the Qur'aan recited on the radio or tape player, we should not talk or do any impolite acts. If we must talk, we should first stop the recitation.

### Reciting in a Nice Way

We should recite the Qur'aan in a nice way. Al-Baraa' Bin 'Aazib (ﷺ) reported that the Prophet (ﷺ) said:

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1 *Soorat al-A'raaf* 7:204.

«زَيِّنوا القُرْآنَ بِأَصْواتِكمْ، فَإنَّ الصَّوْتَ الحَسَنَ يَزيدُ القُرْآنَ حُسْناً.»

**‹Beautify the Qur'aan with your voices. Surely, a nice voice adds to the beauty of the Qur'aan.›** [1]

Aboo Hurayrah (ﷺ) said that the Prophet (ﷺ) said:

«مَا أَذِنَ اللهُ لشَيْءٍ ما أَذِنَ لِنَبِيٍّ حَسَنِ الصَّوْتِ بِالقُرْآنِ يجْهَرُ بِهِ.»

**‹Allaah does not listen to anything as much as He listens to a prophet of nice voice loudly reciting the Qur'aan.›** [2]

The nice way of reciting the Qur'aan is called *tajweed*, which is to recite in a melodious way. Every Muslim should recite the Qur'aan with *tajweed*.

Aboo Hurayrah (ﷺ) said that the Prophet (ﷺ) said:

«لَيْسَ مِنَّا مَنْ لَمْ يَتَغَنَّ بِالقُرْآنِ.»

**‹He is not one of us who does not recite the Qur'aan melodiously.›** [3]

Reciting "melodiously" does not mean singing the

1 This *hadeeth* is recorded by ad-Daarimee, al-Haakim, and others. It is verified to be authentic by al-Albaanee (*as-Saheehah* no. 771 & *Saheeh ul-Jaami'* no. 3581).

2 This *hadeeth* is recorded by al-Bukhaaree (5023, 5024, 7482, 7544) and Muslim (792).

3 This *hadeeth* is recorded by al-Bukhaaree (7527).

Qur'aan with musical tones like a song. Singing the Qur'aan is prohibited because it is like playing with the words of Allaah.

### SHOWING FEAR

We should read the Qur'aan with attention and understanding. We should have great respect for it because it is the saying of Allaah the Greatest. We should have fear in our heart when we read about the punishment of the disobedient nations and about hellfire. A true believer who pays attention to his recitation would fear Allaah, and this fear would show in his recitation.

Ibn 'Abbaas, Ibn 'Umar, and 'Aa'ishah (ﷺ) all reported that the Prophet (ﷺ) said:

«أَحْسَنُ النَّاسِ قِراءَةً لِلْقُرْآنِ الَّذي
إذا سَمِعْتَهُ أُريتَ أَنَّهُ يخْشَى اللهَ.»

**‹The best person in reciting Qur'aan is the one that when you hear him you feel that he fears Allaah.›** [1]

The Prophet (ﷺ) and his companions (ﷺ) often cried from fear when they read the Qur'aan or listened

1 This *hadeeth* is recorded by al-Bayhaqee and others. It is verified to be authentic by al-Albaanee (*as-Saheehah* no. 1583 & *Saheeh ul-Jaami'* no. 194).

to it. They cried because they understood the true power of Allaah: He can easily punish for the sins, and His punishment is most painful. They also cried from longing to Allaah and looking forward to meeting Him in *Jannah*. May Allaah (ﷻ) make our hearts filled with loving Him, fearing Him, and longing to meet Him.

### RECITING SLOWLY

We should not rush in reciting the Qur'aan, and we should not connect the *aayaat*. Rather, we should read slowly, one *aayah* at a time, as was the recitation of the Prophet (ﷺ).

Umm Salamah (رضي الله عنها) was asked about the Prophet's (ﷺ) recitation of the Qur'aan. She replied:

> "He used to break his recitation to one *aayah* followed by one *aayah*: *Bismillaah ir-rahmaan irraheem. Al-hamdu lillaahi rabb il-'aalameen. Ar-rahmaan ir-raheem. Maaliki yawm id-deen.*" [1]

### FREQUENT STUDY OF THE QUR'AAN

We should always study and review the Qur'aan. If we stops doing this, we will forget some of the parts that we have learned.

Aboo Moosaa al-Ash'aree (رضي الله عنه) reported that the

1 This is recorded by Ahmad, Aboo Daawood, and others. It is verified to be authentic by al-Albaanee (*Irwaa' ul-Ghaleel* no. 343).

Prophet (ﷺ) said:

«تَعَاهَدوا هَٰذا القُرْآنَ، فَوَالَّذي نَفْسُ مُحَمَّد بِيَدِهِ لَهُوَ أَشَدُّ تَفَلُّتاً مِنَ الإِبِلِ في عُقُلِها.»

**‹Take good care of (memorizing) this Qur'aan. By the One that Muhammad's life is in His hand (Allaah), it is more easy for the Qur'aan to escape (from your memory) than the camels try to escape from their ropes.›** [1]

### MODERATENESS IN RECITING THE QUR'AAN

We saw above that we should keep reading the Qur'aan all the time. We should try to finish reading it all at least once every month. If we are eager for more rewards, we can try to finish it in less than a month. But we should never try to finish it in less than three days.

'Abdullaah Bin 'Amr (ﷺ) reported that the Prophet (ﷺ) told him:

«اِقْرَإِ القُرْآنَ في كُلِّ شَهْرٍ. اِقْرَأْهُ في خَمْسٍ وَعِشْرينَ، اِقْرَأْهُ في عِشْرينَ، اِقْرَأْهُ في خَمْسِ عَشْرَةَ، اِقْرَأْهُ في عَشْرٍ، اِقرَأْهُ في سَبْعٍ، وَلا تَزِدْ عَلى ذَٰلِكَ، وَلا يَفْقَهُ مَنْ يَقْرَؤُهُ في أَقَلِّ مِنْ ثَلاثٍ.»

1 This *hadeeth* is recorded by al-Bukhaaree (5033) and Muslim (791).

> **‹Recite the (whole) Qur'aan once in a month, or recite it in twenty-five (nights), or recite it in twenty, or recite it in fifteen, or recite it in ten, or recite it in seven, but in no less than that. And anyone who recites it in less than three nights will not understand it.›** [1]

We often hear stories that some of the *sahaabah*, such as 'Uthmaan or 'Alee (ﷺ), finished reciting the whole Qur'aan in one night. Those stories are untrue, and they disagree with the above command of the Prophet (ﷺ).

## Deserting the Qur'aan

Deserting the Qur'aan means to quit reading it, listening to it, or following its teachings. Some people, even Muslims, desert the Qur'aan.

It does not matter how many copies of Qur'aan books, Qur'aan cassettes, Qur'aan posters, or Qur'aan computer programs we have. What matters is whether or not we make use of the Qur'aan that we have.

Anyone who deserts the Qur'aan will possibly be punished on the Day of Resurrection, because the Messenger (ﷺ) will complain to Allaah about him. Allaah (ﷻ) says:

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1 This *hadeeth* is recorded by al-Bukhaaree (5052-5054), Muslim (1159), and others.

﴿وَقَالَ ٱلرَّسُولُ: "يَٰرَبِّ إِنَّ قَوْمِي ٱتَّخَذُواْ
هَٰذَا ٱلْقُرْءَانَ مَهْجُورًا." ۝﴾ الفرقان ٣٠

**«And the messenger will say (on Judgment Day), "O my Lord, my people have surely abandoned this Qur'aan."»** [1]

May Allaah make us of those who recite the Qur'aan frequently, memorize it, and follow its teachings — *aameen*.

1 *Soorat al-Furqaan* 25:30.

## Questions and Exercises

1. In the following table, check all true statements (16 points):

| | Statement | ✓ |
|---|---|---|
| a | We should recite Qur'aan to get rewards from the people. | |
| b | We should read the Qur'aan for money. | |
| c | We should read the Qur'aan to please Allaah. | |
| d | We should not go to extremes in interpreting the Qur'aan. | |
| e | We may desert the Qur'aan sometimes. | |
| f | One who reads the Qur'aan with difficulty gets half the rewards. | |
| g | Satan likes listening to the Qur'aan. | |
| h | Our position in *Jannah* is decided by how much Qur'aan we read. | |
| i | The two glorious *soorahs* are *al-Baqarah* and *aal-'Imraan*. | |
| j | On reciting 10 letters of the Qur'aan, we get 10 rewards, each reward multiplied 3 times. | |
| k | A house where the Qur'aan is not read is like a graveyard. | |

| | Statement | ✓ |
|---|---|---|
| l | When we read Qur'aan with sincerity, peace and serenity come down over us from the heavens. | |
| m | A good voice adds to the beauty of the Qur'aan. | |
| n | The Qur'aan should be read with fear. | |
| o | The camels run away when the Qur'aan is recited. | |
| p | We should try to recite the whole Qur'aan in one night. | |

2. Mention six rewards for reciting the Qur'aan (6 points):

| |
|---|
| 1 |
| 2 |
| 3 |
| 4 |
| 5 |
| 6 |

3. Mention seven *aadaab* for reciting the Qur'aan (14 points):

| |
|---|
| 1 |
| 2 |
| 3 |
| 4 |
| 5 |
| 6 |
| 7 |

4. Mention three things that count as deserting the Qur'aan (6 points):

| |
|---|
| 1 |
| 2 |
| 3 |

5. Mention five rewards for learning and teaching the Qur'aan (5 points):

| |
|---|
| 1 |
| 2 |
| 3 |
| 4 |
| 5 |

6. We may ask favors for reciting the Qur'aan from (check one only; 2 points):

| | |
|---|---|
| Allaah | |
| The people | |
| Both of the above | |

# ARABIC VOCABULARY

| Term | Meaning |
|---|---|
| *Aayah* | Approximately one sentence of the Qur'aan. Plural: *aayaat*. |
| *'Aalim* | Scholar. Plural: *'ulamaa'*. |
| *'Abd* | Servant (of Allaah). |
| Al-Ka'bah | The House of worship in Makkah. All Muslims face it in their prayers. |
| Al-Madeenah | The town in Arabia where the Prophet (ﷺ) built his Mosque and lived the last ten years of his life. |
| *Deen* | Religion. |
| *Eemaan* | Faith or belief. |
| *Hadeeth* | A saying or an action of the Prophet (ﷺ). |
| *Hajj* | Pilgrimage. |
| *Ihsaan* | Worshiping and fearing Allaah as if you can see Him. |
| *Jahannam* | The hell fire. |

| **Term** | **Meaning** |
|---|---|
| *Jannah* | The gardens of Paradise. |
| *Jinn* | Invisible creatures that Allaah created from smoke. |
| *Kaafir* | One who does not believe in Islaam. Plural: *kuffaar*. |
| *Khutbah* | Speech. |
| Makkah | The hometown of the Prophet (ﷺ). |
| *Masjid* | Mosque. Place where the Muslims pray. |
| *Mu'min* | Believer or one who has *eemaan*. |
| *Qadar* | Destiny or decree. |
| *Ramadhaan* | The month of fasting. |
| *Sahaabee* | Companion of the Prophet (ﷺ). Plural: *Sahaabah*. |
| *Salaah* | The prayer. |
| *Salaf* | Early good Muslims. |
| *Shahaadah* | Testimony. |
| *Sujood* | Putting the forehead down on the ground in prayer to Allaah. |
| Sunnah | The Prophet's teachings. |

| Term | Meaning |
|---|---|
| *Soorah* | Chapter of the Qur'aan. |
| *Tafseer* | Explanation of the *Qur'aan*. |
| *Thikr* | Mentioning Allaah by heart and tongue. Plural: *athkaar*. |
| *Zakaah* | Obligatory charity in Islaam. |

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